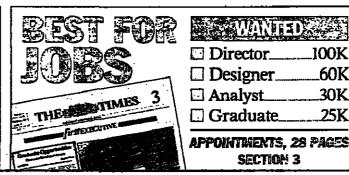
PAGE 50

RETURN Australia's Test hopes revive

BEST FOR Michèle Roberts

on food as fashion PLUS: Roy Strong, Marianne Wiggins, Peter Ackroyd, PAGES 40, 41 **BODY AND** MIND Dr Stuttaford on removing tattoos PLUS: signs of Parkinson's,



Director. Designer .60K Analyst .30K Graduate.

SECTION 3

French police investigate claim that arson by sacked staff could have caused train fire

PAGE 20

Tunnel is kept shut as experts wrangle

By Joanna Bale in calais, Adam Sage in paris, JONATHAN PRYNN AND DAMIAN WHITWORTH

THE Channel Tunnel is to remain closed indefinitely after Eurotunnel representatives walked out of talks with its safety regulators yesterday.

SNCF, the French rail operator, ruled out any resumption of services before Monday, and if the safety authorityinsists that the tunnel is fully repaired before any trains run, it could be closed until the

new year... Eurotunnel, which had hoped to start some services bypassing the damaged section today and insists that it can have trains running within a few hours of being given the go-ahead, refused to comment on yesterday's talks, but a company source said that its delegation had walked out after five hours when mem-



bers of the Channel Tunnel Safety Authority suggested that none of its train services was safe. The meeting contin-

without the Eurotunnel team. French authorities began to investigate claims that the which devastated part of the Folkestone-bound tunnel on Monday night was started deliberately.

Alain Bertrand, Eurotunnel's chief operations manager, confirmed last night that a security guard had made a statement saying that he had seen smoke coming from lorry on the train before it left. And although it was originally assumed that it had been an the possibilities we are it could take until the new looking at is that someone out some kind of incendiary de-

vice on to the lorry." The fire was discovered shortly after the end of a twohour strike by Eurotunnel staff at Calais over the announcement that 657 jobs were to be cut. French port workers are known for their militancy and often brandish incendiary distress flares in disputes.

About half a mile of the south tunnel was severely affected by the blaze, which was so intense that it melted a lorry load of aluminium. The



The rear locomotive of the burnt train emerges covered in soot near Calais yesterday. The wrecked front portion of the train remains welded to the rails in the tunnel

damage will cost tens of millions of pounds to repair to complete the work.

Ken Cameron, general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, yesterday called for the tunnel to remain closed pending a thorough overhaul of safety procedures. He suggested that the design of the car trains should also be reviewed and said that it might be safer for passengers to leave their cars and travel in enclosed carriages. He also wanted closed freight wagons and smoke hoods for passengers. "We have got to get safety

talking about bodies, not close

officer for Kent and a member of the tunnel safety authority. also questioned the design of the open wagons used to transport lorries, saying: "I was shown the design back in 1992 and said then that if a fire occurred it would be very serious - that's now ben proved. "The safety authority is looking again at this design. I have always been concerned as a fire fighter about the extent of the spread of fire in a case like this."

The safety authority has the power to keep the tunnel closed until all the repairs are

done, and some members are known to be concerned about the safety of running trains in both directions through a single tunnel. If another incident meant large numbers of people had to be moved out quickly, there would not be a tunnel available to

evacuate them by train. M Betrand, however, was confident that the authority would not insist that both tunnels should be fully operational before services could run. "We have done this before when one tunnel has been out of action due to maintenance operations," he said. "The system is designed to cope."

He added that services would

begin again quickly once the authority gave its approval. *Eurotunnel plans to resume in several phases, starting in a few hours with freight trains. I hope trains and shuttle trains with private cars and passengers might start rolling again by the end of the week."

Eurostar yesterday tried to take some passengers to Paris and Brussels by train, bus and boat - but that emergency service was abandoned when the journeys were taking be-tween six and eight hours.

Eurostar will be given priority over Le Shuttle when the tunnel does reopen, but with called the hotline opting to reschedule rather than cancel their journeys, there was a how long it would take to clear the backlog of people holding Both Eurostar and Le Shut-

tle have frozen bookings for the time being, but Eurostar said that it would be ready to run services within an hour of any announcement that the tunnel was reopening.
P&O said it would bring a

fifth ferry into action tomorrow to increase the number of Dover to Calais crossings from 20 to 25 tomorrow, and annual repair work had been postponed on the three ships on the Dover-Zeebrugge

crossings were full, but P&O peared once the weather improved and after mid-morning the tailbacks that had iammed the port during the original rush of traffic when the tunnel

shut had dispersed. British Airways said that it had seen an increase in business on flights to Paris and Brussels, "Some flights were full but we expect that we will still have some seats avail-able," a spokesman said.

> Legal fight, page 7 French gridlock, page 19 Letters, page 23

Council bans distasteful' film

Westminster council has banned the film Crash from its cinenus unless the board of film censors gives it an 18-certificate and insists on cuts. The film, which explores sexual gratification over car crashes, compains three scenes which the 12 councillors on he licensing sub-committee found too distasteful ... Page 5

Five-day drill for French teenagers

French teenagers will have to go on five-day civic instruction courses under plans to replace national conscription. Anyone-who does not take part will be unable to apply for a civil service job enter higher education or obtain social security. All 18-year-olds will be isstructed on their rights and

The Times on the Internet http://www.thetimes.co.uk



CROSSWORDS...

Police kill man on rampage in shop

By STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

A DISTURBED man who went on the rampage in a busy city supermarket with a knife was shot dead by a police marksman last night. The 40-year-old-man, who

was also waving a pair of handcuffs, ran into the Co-op shop in Washwood Heath Road, Ward End, Birmingham, after an argument with a woman, believed to be his mother, at a house nearby. inside the shop the man launched an attack on three members of staff before confronting the manager. He put the handcuffs on the man and then threatened him with the knife at his back before lashing out in attempt to cut the

man's throat. He stabbed him at least once in the stomach. Outside the shop armed police, who had been called to deal with the disturbance at the house, surrounded the building but were forced to open fire when their attempts to negotiate with the man

Witnesses heard four or five shots after an officer opened fire and seriously wounded the man. He died later.

The officer who shot the man was described as "extremely traumanised".The shop manager was being treated for the wounds, but his life was not at risk.

Angler casts out British record with 98lb catfish

A CATFISH seven feet long and weighing 980bs, a fish without precedent in the annals of British angling, has been caught from a lake in

It was taken by Steve Bond from Oak Lodge, a two-acre water at Rayleigh, near Southend. The fish was half as heavy

again as the next biggest freshwater fish ever caught in Britain, a 64lb salmon taken by Georgina Ballantine in 1922. It was 37lbs heavier than the previous record catfish, caught from a lake in Bedfordshire earlier this year. But even as the scales on

which the fish was weighed were being checked by a local Weights and Measures Department and a claim for a new record was being prepared, questions about the catch began circulating.

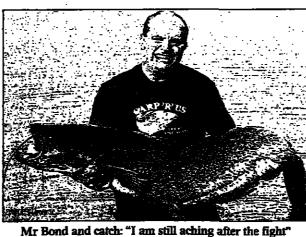
Mr Bond owns the lake and charges anglers £20 a day. A number of catfish anglers were suggesting the fish could have been smuggled in from the European mainland and recently put into the water.

If so, that would be sufficient to have any record claim rejected. Mr Bond dismissed these claims out of hand. "I have seven witnesses to the capture. Nothing like that fish has ever been put in. It is all just jealousy."

Alwyne Wheeler, a former curator of fish at the Natural

OBITUARIES 25

WILLIAM REES-MOGG 22



History Museum and scientific adviser to the British record fish committee, said: "It does seem surprising that such an enormous fish should come from such a small lake. It would take a tremendous toll of other fish and any water fowl present. The committee will come to a decision when it has all the evidence."

In the meantime, there is no doubt that the immense fish was caught, and caught on rod and line by Mr Bond. "I am still aching after the fight," he said. "I hooked it

while I was fishing from the bank but realised after ten minutes that I could not control it from there.

"A friend got into a boat with me. I weigh 16 stones and my pal weighs 14 stones. We were already low in the water. The fish towed us around for

CHESS & BRIDGE...... 49

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an hour and a half. People on the bank thought it was going to tow us under."

Catfish are predators and scavengers and on the European mainland, where they originated, they can grow to immense size. Weights of 400lb and even 500lb have been recorded.

Relatively few waters in Britain contain them and they have not achieved that size here. The first were introduced to Britain by the Duke of Bedford who, in 1880, put 70 or so small fish into two lakes at Woburn. Since then, the fish have spread to several other waters in the Home Counties and the southern Midlands.

There has long been speculation on how big a record fish could grow. This catch looks set to put several theories to

Sceptics win vote on EMU debate

By Philip Webster POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Government faced mounting pressure to give way to MPs and allow a debate on the single currency last night after suffering an embarrassing defeat at the hands of Euro-sceptics using guerrilla warfare tactics. Amid chaotic scenes a Com-

mons committee vesterday morning refused to back the Government's wish to "take note" of a series of Brussels proposals on monetary union. The Government wanted the matters, covering arrange-ments for introducing the euro, including fines for countries that breach budget deficit rules, to be dealt with by committee rather than in the full glare of the Commons.

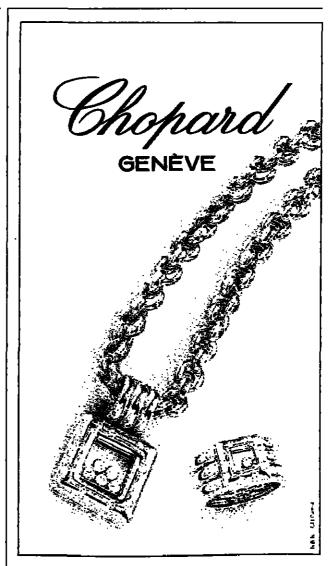
Ministers made plain that they would ignore the vote, saying the debate in itself had been enough to comply with Commons rules that the regulations had to be "scrutinised". But protests mounted through the day. The rebels took heart when Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, promised to look into the matter and said she was anxious to "save the integrity of the House".

Then in a potentially decisive move last night the Select Committee on European Legislation made a renewed demand for the matter to be Continued on page 2, col 6

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EUROSTAR TOKEN...... 2

LAW REPORT.....45



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Pie's the limit for minister bringing ample help to starving refugees

against a chubby player, and common at the cheap end of the stadium, goes.
Who are all the pies?

Who ate all the pies? You fat bastard. You fat bastard, You are all the pies!

No MP was actually vulgar enough to chant this, or anything like it as Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, steamed into the chamber yesterday to make a statement about military support for a relief operation to help starving refugees in Cen-

entered more minds than mine, that to place this Minister behind a Whitehall desk to sign orders and agree statements, is to misdirect his

Overseeing two operations supplying military protection and providing food — the enormous Mr Soames aims to do good indirectly. But deployed in his own person as a defensive barrage, or as nourishment for hungry refugees. Soames could do good directly.

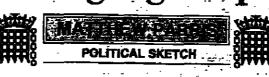
With Soames borne aloft

in Hussars' tie -- a whole regiment could march across the African plain safe from attack. He would serve in two capacities. First, the mere sight of Mr Soames would so terrify both the Hutus and the Tutsis, none of whom could ever before have seen anything so big and so white, that most would drop their spears and run. As for the Congo

species altogether.

Secondly, should any attack

pygmies, they would be dumbfounded, regarding Soames as the representative of another



pipes actually be launched. such a bombardment would be to Mr Soames what a few. mosquito bites are to lesser humans. The natives, finding their weaponry useless, would panic, their morale shattered. The military operation complete, there would be no need to bring Soames home. For

now the humanitarian stage

commences. Just one of the Armed Forces Minister's legs could feed an entire Hutu encampment. Finely diced and served with yams. Soames could make the difference between survival and starvation for a whole tribe. A generous jovial and genuinely philanthropic soul, it is quite possible Mr Soames could be persuaded of the benefits of

Before the Minister arrived. MPs had endured a session that can stretch 60 minutes of parliamentary time into what always seems an eternity.

They call it Scottish Questions. An hour has never seemed so from an observation by Barry Field (Isle of Wight, Conservative) that the Scots "mutter and mean into their sporrans"

– surely a gymnastic feat? –

was this: Michael Forsyth, the

Scottish Secretary, seems to be

answering almost every Ques-from from English Tory MPs. This is unusual. There were four Scottish ministers on the bench, and only a handful of English MPs on the government backbenches. But every time an English colleague popped up. Forsyth took the

Up he would leap, ever helpful, ready to flatter even the most preposterous of his Sassenach colleagues. Speaking without notes, this rising right-wing Eurosceptic showed off his skill and bite at

serving humanity in this un-making a point of personally the dispatch box. In fact the was only one English Tory he ably Europeanist and Heath ite wet. Hugh Dykes (Harrow East). No votes there in Forsyth in a future leader than

> As I left, an omen stajked into the chamber. Spindly Sir George Gataliner (Conservative, Reigate) has thickened a little around the midriffs, and now resemb bles a lick of cuckpo-spittle or a long stick. When Sir George shows. Tory trouble is brew ing on Europe.

Butler defends Whitehall role in Tory tax attack

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND ANDREW PIERCE

THE Cabinet Secretary. Sir Robin Butler, became embroiled in a fierce political row yesterday as he insisted that the impartiality of civil servants had not been compromised by the production of a Tory document alleging Lab-our spending plans would cost the taxpayer £30 billion.

Sir Robin's swift intervention to underline the independence of the Civil Service overshadowed a day of claims and counter claims about the Conservatives' "tax bombshell" charge.

The Tories had published a dossier detailing 89 pledges which they claimed would cost the average family £1,200. But within five hours, Labour had produced a line-by-line rebuttal, saying each of the Tory claims was a lie.

Sir Robin made clear that civil servants had acted in accordance with guidelines. But in a strongly worded statement the First Division Association, which represents senior civil servants, expressed deep concern at "the extensive use of civil servants to cost alleged Labour Party

Alerted by Tony Blair's office to a BBC report suggesting that he had authorised civil servants to trawl through the speeches of Labour frontbenchers for spending commitments. Sir Robin indicated that he had had no

about which he learnt for the first time on Sunday. He added that the exercise had

not breached the rules. He is understood to have William Waldegrave, the Treasury Chief Secretary, who is in charge of the costing exercise and met him later. But he denied through the Cabinet Office that he had protested to Mr Waldegrave.

Mr Waldegrave, stung by suggestions he had been given a dressing down by Sir Robin, a short statement through Conservative Central Office. He said: "I have seen Sir Robin Butler. He has made no criticism of me or this costing exercise. The exercise was, as he agrees, conducted according to the long-standing



Sir Robin: drew up the

rules for which he was origi-

nally responsible." Baroness Symons, General Secretary of the FDA, the senior civil servants' association, telephoned Sir Robin to protest about the use of civil servants in the document. Ten years ago, Sir Robin

devised the rules which should be followed if Whitehall departments are asked to cost the policies and pledges of their political opponents. His rules appear in a booklet Guidance on Guidance.

The instructions appear under the heading "Costing the policies of Opposition parties" and say there is no objection to officials providing factual information".

Labour were quick to condemn the Tory document as "89 new Tory lies". Gordon Brown published a point by point rebuttal of the Tory assertions. "Having lied about their tax plans and raised taxes 22 times against all promises, the Tories are now lying about Labour's tax and spending plans," he said.

The Tories later produced their own rebuttal to Labour's counter claims. As the allegations descended deeper into farce. Conservative Central Office produced a further defence of their original claims insisting the "costing is right" on each of the 89 points.

Labour denial, page 12



The Prince tastes the award-winning bitter yesterday

Prince behind bar to sample Jail Ale

THE Prince of Wales sampled Dartmoor Jail Ale yesterday in a specially created bar at which he was the only customer. A pint of the awardwinning dark bitter was pulled for him when he arrived at a tiny brewery in Princetown, Devon, during a flurry of snow.

The brewers, Philip Davis and Simon Loveless, erected a three-pump bar for his visit. As he lifted a glass tankard full of the bitter, the Prince

ioked: "I don't want to get the froth on the end of my nose." After his tasting, he was esented with 48 bottles of ale brewed for him. The labels bore a royal crown together with the initials HRH.

They are the only 48 bottles of this beer in the world," Mr Davis said, adding that the bitter became stronger as it aged. The brewery, leased from the Duchy of Cornwall. is only yards from the Prince

Luro row

Continued from page I taken on the floor of the House. The committee, which has overall charge of the way the Commons handles European affairs, disagreed with ministers that the documents had been scrutinised. It de-clared that in its view the documents had not yet been dealt with and asked for them to go to the full House.

The move left the Government again in confrontation with backbenchers from all sides of the Commons. Torn Newton, the Commons leader will face a rough ride this afternoon if he declines to

back down. Miss Boothroyd had earlier intervened after unusual scenes in a Commons committec room yesterday morning when Euro-sceptics trooped in to join the normally tranquil proceedings of European Standing Committee B as it discussed a series of regulations relating to the introduc-tion of the euro. The interlopers were not allowed to vote but they continued to demand that the matter be heard in the Commons rather

than the committee itself. When the committee members themselves came to vote on the documents John Whittingdale, Conservative MP for Colchester South and Maldon, sided with Opposition MPs to defeat the Govern

parties, but mainly Tory Eurosceptics, went along to the meeting to urge the chairman Sir James Molyneaux to adjourn proceedings so that the debate could be heard in the House Some Conservatives claim that the Government wants to keep the issue out of the spotlight to prevent Kenneth Clarke, the pro European Charicellor, having to answer senstitive questions.

vying — and is expected to

focus on health, education and

employment. Strategists are

keen to translate Margaret

Thatcher's property-owning

democracy into an "opportuni

Policies are likely to include

encouraging savings and cut-

ting capital gains and inheri-

tance taxes. The manifesto will also include a pledge to in-

crease spending on health and

plans to help the elderly with the cost of nursing homes.

More law and order measures

are also expected, including

those dropped from the Queen's Speech, such as the national identity card.

ty-owning democracy

Major fears 'sticky patch' in Ulster talks

British and Irish ministers met in Belfast last night amid growing gloom about the multiparty talks at Stormont. Dick Spring. Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister, used the first Anglo-Irish conference since July to voice his fears that Unionists were obstructing the talks.

John Major met loyalist politicians for 90 minutes at Downing Street. He conceded that the talks had run into a sticky patch and we must wait and see how we get out of that. He was told by the loyalists that the decommissioning of terrorist weapons could lead to the collapse of the Stormont discussions. The Irish Government and the SDLP. are concerned that Unionists want to use Sinn Fein's absence from the talks to insist that the IRA must detommission some weapons before Sinn Fein can join negotiations on substantive issues

DPP chief fights back

Barbara Mills, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, has sought to defuse mounting criticisms of the Crown Prosecution Service with a letter to all its staff denouncing a BBC2 programme as "selective and unbalanced". She warned that the programme, shown last night as part of a series called The Verdict, might be "hostile". It claims the CPS downgrades charges so they are heard in the less expensive magistrates' courts.

Lottery lays golden Eigg

The National Lottery Heritage Fund pledged to support the people of Eigg in their attempt to buy the Hebridean island. The five-mile long island was put up for sale for £2 million by its present owner, Marlin Eckhart Maruma, a German artist, in August. As well as the purchase price, the trust set up to bid for the island is seeking funds to implement development and business plans for the area. Financial support is expected to be substantial, possibly about 75 per cent.

Labour chooses teacher

Jeff Ennis, a 44-year-old teacher and local council leader, has been named as Labour candidate for the Barnsley East byelection to be held on December 12. Party whips moved the writ for the poll in the Commons yesterday. The by-election for the South Yorkshire mining seat was caused by the death last month of the sitting MP Terry Patchett, who had a 24,777 majority at the last election. If Labour retains the seat, the Government will lose its Commons majority of one.

Army's Big Mac attack

Orders received by soldiers on the radio network at the Colchester barracks of 24 Airmobile Brigade had more to do with beef than bull. New Dutch headphones used by the staff of the local McDonald's to take orders from drive in customers interfered with the military frequencies. Officials from the Department of Trade and Industry's Radio Communications Agency visited the restaurant, in Stanway, Essex, and warned staff not to use unlicensed radio systems.

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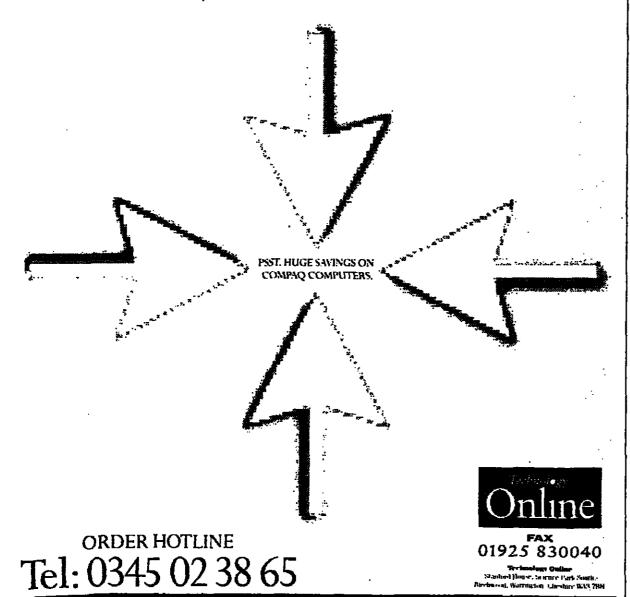
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Ministers urged to produce new ideas

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR has told the Cabinet to come up with some fresh, and more radical, ideas for the Conservative Party manifesto in case he is forced into a snap general election

early next year.

Ministers have been asked to submit new policies within the next three weeks to Norman Blackwell, head of the Downing Street policy unit. Mr Blackwell will consult other members of the policy unit in December before drawing up the final docu-

ment over Christmas. The search for more far reaching ideas follows a series of high level meetings between Mr Major, Michael Howard Michael Heseltine, Kenneth Clarke and Mr Blackwell. The Prime Minister is still hoping to delay the general election until May, but he knows that Labour will use every opportunity to force an earlier poll. The Tories' slim majority is expected to be wiped out by the forthcoming by-elections in Barnsley East and Wirral

Although ministers pro-duced a raft of ideas for the manifesto in July, they have now been asked to go back to their departments to think again. Party strategists say that as many of the ideas were announced at the party confercome up with fresh proposals. Downing Street is also anxious to maintain the momentum and demonstrate that the party has not run out of steam after 17 years.

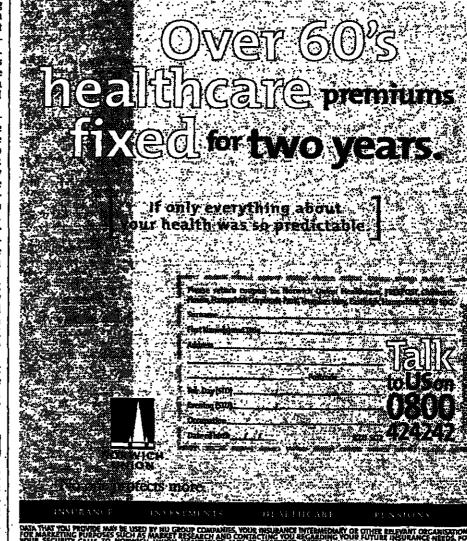
The new proposals must fit into the theme, "Opportunity for all", which was launched at the party conference in October with a vivid portrayal of Mr Major's humble beginnings in Brixton.

The programme is aimed at Middle England voters - the key group for which both Labour and the Tories are

CORRECTION

The sale of an unrecorded sketchleaf from Beethoven's Missa Solemnis (report, November 19) takes place at Sotheby's in London on December 6.







SATURDAY

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letters that

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Judge calls for truce in battle of the listed wall



Anne Kissel: she lost her case against the council

Neighbour's case 'without foundation'

A HIGH COURT judge has year legal battle over a stone wall dividing two medieval homes in a Cotswold town.

With both sides now tens of thousands of pounds poorer, the judge said yesterday that he hoped the argument which had raged in Chipping Campden - "a town of great charm and attraction should be laid to rest. Anne Kissel, a recently qual-

ified solicitor, had just lost the latest round in the battle of the wall. She was described by Rowland Rodgers, a garage proprietor, as "one of the worst neighbours in the country", who had caused a tenyear living nightmare of litication".

Mr Justice Scott Baker re-jected her claim that Cotswold District Council was wrong in law when it retrospectively granted Mr Rodgers listed building consent for the raising of the height of the wall at Poppetts, his medieval farmhouse home in the High Street. The judge dismissed her argument that Mr Rodgers should have been prosecuted by the authority for demolishing and rebuilding the dry-stone wall, changing its character to a wet-stone wall, without consent.

A further blow came when the judge ordered Mrs Kissel,

Inside she had found 18

dogs, among them four-year-

old Cuddly, which later had to be put down. "Cuddly was very depressed. He had great

difficulty moving. He seemed disabled on his back legs and

he could only bunny hop using

his front legs to pull himself

along. His eyes were very weepy. He had been bitten on

Another dog, Zinta, was

found in the lavatory compart-

ment of a caravan. "Zinta had

her right ear missing and her

hind right foot was missing. It

was a stump which was very red and raw." The leg was

Matthew Scott, for Miss

Hein, said that she was "a

person who is overworked,

foolish, unwise and frightened

but without any desire to

cause any suffering to ani-

mals". He added: "It is only

because of the extraordinary

love that Dr Hein had for her

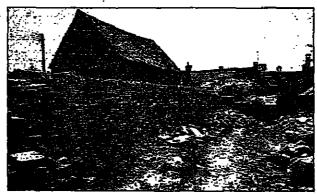
dogs that she allowed herself

to fall into the position where she perhaps had more ani-

mals than she could have

properly coped with."

later amputated.



The listed wall over which Mrs Kissel objected

launched proceedings against

another neighbour over the

Rejecting her challenge, Mr

Justice Scott Baker said the

council had acted "entirely

properly". It was Mrs Kissel

who wanted the wall rebuilt

and it had been done to a

standard that satisfied the

local authority - and there

was some doubt as to whether

it properly qualified as a dry-

"She has caused a great deal

of time to be spent by the

council and no doubt some

aggravation to its officers and

also to her neighbour. Her

claim on careful examination

is without foundation and it is

to be hoped the matter will

now be laid to rest," he said.

Mrs Kissel was refused

leave to appeal, but could still

take her application to the

Court of Appeal. Mr Rodgers

stone wall in the first place.

demolition of another wall.

century Twine House, to pay the council's legal costs, esti-mated at between E5,000 and £10,000, on an indemnity basis - the highest level at which costs can be awarded. The judge made the punitive order after Timothy Straker, QC, for the council, argued that Mrs Kissel had pursued the case as part of her "hobby" regarding listed buildings.

She had also pursued the case even though work on the wall had been done at her instigation after earlier court action. Gregory Jones, her counsel, accused the council of applying for the increased costs order as an act of oppression, seeking revenge against Mrs Kissel for bringing yesterday's action.

The judge observed that Mrs Kissel was "no stranger" to judicial review applications in the High Court, having said later: "I am very pleased it has worked out like this. Mrs Kissel is one of the worst neighbours in the country. She has cost me tens of thousands of pounds over the past ten years in litigation. I hope she backs off now." Mrs Kissel said: "This wall

has been belittled by everybody, but it is a Grade II listed building and should be treated

The legal battle with Mr Rodgers had not been all one way as he had also started court actions against her. She added: "Since these proceedings started, I have been subjected to various abusive telephone calls and I don't know where they have come from."

In Chipping Campden some were toasting Mr Rodgers's success. Roger Fowle, 50, said: "Everyone in the town except Mrs Kissel was delighted when Rowland took over this cottage. She has opposed him every step of the way. The whole episode has changed him completely. He used to be happy-go-lucky but now he's always on edge."

Sally Lindner, a town and district councillor, said: "Mr Rodgers has done everything by the book. But she is just obsessive. Her actions have ruined his life. She is obsessed with listed buildings. She wants everything to be the way it was, without any compromise. Everyone knows that is impossible, except her."



Rowland Rodgers: he raised the height of the wall

Vet who mistreated dogs banned from practising

By Michael Hornsby, agriculture correspondent

A VET was banned from practising yesterday after a disciplinary committee decid-ed she had caused unnecessary suffering to alsatian dogs in her care.

One animal was found with a foot missing and an ear ripped off; another had a severely swollen and infected head; and others were found licking moisture off windowpanes to slake their thirst. Two dogs had to be put down.

The Royal College of Veteri-Hein, 69, of Amberwell Kennels. Guildford, Surrey, that veterinary surgery" and that the registrar had been directed to remove her name from the register. She had had 140 dogs

in her care. Jeremy Lucke, chairman of the college's disciplinary panel, said: "It is the clear that not only were you the custodian of a large number of dogs without adequate staffing or re-sources to care for them properly, you were also acting in a professional capacity to those animals in your care.

The committee has no doubt this resulted in unnecessary suffering."

The committee was told that Miss Hein, a former Ministry of Agriculture vet, had been found guilty by Farnham Magistrates in March of mistreating dogs in her care. She had been barred from having custody of any dogs for seven years and fined £250 for unlawfully keeping a breeding establishment.

in a statement after the twoday disciplinary hearing, Miss Hein said: "I have never considered that I have been unnecessary suffering. The committee was shown

video footage of Miss Hein's house, taken by RSPCA inspectors. Members were told that Miss Hein kept 140 alsatians in the house, which was limered with urine-soaked

Inspector Alison MacVicar told the panel: To get into the kitchen you had to climb up onto a raised paving slab. climb in through the window. and onto a metal dustbin."

Watercolour fetches a record £826,500

By Dalya Alberge, arts correspondent

A PICTURE by a little-known 19th-century painter broke the world auction record for any British watercolour yesterday. John Frederick Lewis's Lilium Auratum sold for £826,500 at Sotheby's in London. The price doubled the previ-

ous record, held by Turner's Hampton Court Palace, which fetched E473,000 at Sotheby's in 1990. Such was the competition

that bidding, by telephone, lasted for several minutes. Five potential buyers sent the price leaping by £10,000 as they ignored the estimate of £350,000 to £500,000. The buyer was anonymous. The watercolour depicts

two Oriental girls in the walled garden of a harem. Its use of luminous colour and light shows Lewis at his best. The artist (1805-76) specialised in Oriental and Mediterranean subjects captured in great detail. He made his name in England in the 1820s as an animal painter whose style is reminiscent of Landseer. He spent ten years in Cairo from 1841, during which time he did not exhibit any works. The novelist Thacker av visited him there and noted that he had taken on a dreamy, hazy, lazy, tobaccofied life".

Simon Taylor, a senior director of Sotheby's, said Lewis rarely came on the market: 'He was a fantastic artist. In the late 1970s he held the record for Victorian painting. Serious collectors really go for them. His work has an absolute radiance to it. He gets that Eastern, hot sunlight.



A detail from the John

Killer had affair with Radio One disc jockey

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE woman who killed Rachael Lean had a sexual relationship with a former Radio One disc jockey, a court was told yesterday. Richard Skinner, who now works for Liberty Radio, said that he had met Maria Hnatiuk in a pub in Battersea, south London, in 1990.

After their relationship ended, Mr Skinner received a blackmail threat from lan Wells, Hnatiuk's new boyfriend. Mr Skinner gave details of his affair with Hnatiuk, 29, in a statement to police that was read out at Norwich Crown Court by Oliver Blunt, OC, her counsel. Towards the end of 1991.

several months after the relationship had ended. Mr Skinner said he had received a telephone call from Mr Wells. who alleged that Mr Skinner had raped Hnatiuk. In early 1993, shortly after

Mr Skinner joined Virgin Radio, Mr Wells rang him again to say that a "financial settlement" would ensure that the rape allegation was not disclosed to the press. Mr Skinner said he then contacted the police.

Hnatiuk has already told the court that the rape allegation against Mr Skinner was a complete fabrication and that Mr Wells had forced her to make it. She also blamed Mr Wells for the killing of Miss Lean - saying that he had incited her to stab the 18-yearold student to death.

Hnatiuk admits manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility but denies murder. The prosecution refuses to accept her plea. Miss Lean's body was found in undergrowth along a country lane near RAF Coltishall, Norfolk, in September last year. The prosecution claim that Hnatiuk may have had a

sexual motive for the killing. Miss Lean lived in the nearby village of Buxton with her father Peter, Hnatiuk, originally from Bristol, had been living in and around Buxton and had befriended Miss Lean shortly before the

Police raid home of Guerin suspect

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

ARMED Irish police yester-day raided the home of John Gilligan, a self-confessed suspect for the murder of the Irish journalist Veronica Guerin.

The contents of Gilligan's estate and equestrian centre near Enfield. Co Meath, were removed. Furniture, cars, horse trailers and vehicles were taken in lieu of payment of a £2 million tax bill.

Gilligan, 44, is in Belmarsh orison in England on charges of money laundering. He was arrested at Heathrow airport in October carrying £300,000 and was charged by police under anti-drug legislation. He is the first suspected

erty raided under wide-ranging legislation rushed through the Dublin parliament after the death of the 36-year-old journalist. Ms Guerin was murdered

drug dealer to have his prop-

last June. Gilligan said police suspected that he was involved in her killing but he has

denied any involvement. Nobody has been charged with Ms Guerin's murder. Paul Ward, 32, from Crumlin

in Dublin, has been charged

with conspiracy to murder the investigative journalist. Gilligan's wife. Geraldine.

said last night that her husband had nothing to do with the murder. She said she understood that people suspected him because the journalist was taking a legal action against him. Ms Guerin alleged Gilligan

assaulted her when she called at the equestrian centre last year. The case came to court shortly after Ms Guerin's murder but was abandoned because of her death.

Mrs Gilligan also told RTE television that she and her husband would be able to prove where the money came from to buy their equestrian centre. Ms Guerin was murdered by two men on at least one motorcycle as she waited in her car at traffic lights on the outskirts of Dublin.

John Traynor, a second selfconfessed suspect for the murder and an associate of Gilligan, fled Ireland after Ms Guerin was murdered and has been in Portugal for five months. He denies any involvement.

Self-styled prince left trail of terror in 13 armed robberies

By Stephen Farrell

RICHARD SHOREY tried to cloak his five years of violent armed robberies with an aura of glamour. He falsely claimed to be an African prince, slept with a silver pistol under his bed and boasted to police that he was a criminal tycoon.

But for all his claims of prowess. Shorey, 27, from Harlesden, west London, was caught by police on routine patrol because he could not use the headlights of a stolen getaway car.

Shorey stabbed one deaf and dumb victim 13 times for having no cash. Yesterday he was jailed at the Old Bailey for 14 years after admitting 13 robberies that netted Shorey's final wave of criminal activity began in 1991. After release from prison for spraying a policeman with ammonia he became the "bag

man" on a jewellery shop robbery in west London. He graduated to being the gunman on other robberies and in May 1992 came to the notice of the underworld by escaping with £110,000 in gold and cash from a jewellery

store in west London. There followed a series of attacks on supermarkets, houses and a security van. He later admitted stabbing the deaf and dumb man because "I intended to do somebody serious harm and he just happened to be passing". He handcuffed a woman aged 72 in a raid on a house and locked her in a small cupboard. He pistol-whipped a jeweller whose wife tore his £500 designer jacket. The man needed 32 stitches.

He was caught after stealing a taxi driver's wallet and driving off in the car without the headlights on. A patrol car gave chase. Shorey, who has a jewel embedded in a gold tooth, told police: "I view myself as a tycoon. I was only interested in money, I wanted lots of it piled up all around

Judge Boal, QC, told him: "You were a ruthless and determined armed robber who committed serious crimes whenever you needed money. For five years robbery was your way of life. Each of your victims must have feared for

You can now be in Zurich by 9 a.m., board a connecting flight before 10, and beat many London nonstops to your European destination. After business, take an early evening flight to Zurich and our 8:50 p.m. to Landon. You couldn't spend your day much more efficiently than that. And better cared for: by Swissalr hospitality. The catch? You'll have to be an early bird (but not

swissair world's most refreshing airline.

necessarily a night owi).

Scientists unravel Pharaohs' sex lives

By NIGEL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR

DNA from ancient Egyptian mummies is to be used to investigate the sex lives of the Pharaohs. Among the questions Egyptologists hope to answer is whether the Pharaoh Akhenaten was the father of Tutankhamun.

The study may also show the extent to which the various Egyptian dynasties practised incest, as well as whether fresh genes entered the royal bloodlines through relationships with commoners.

The project based at Manchester Museum and a medical company in Arlington. Virginia, aims to build up a tissue bank of material from mummies, using their blood,



Tutankhamun: doubts over who was his father

muscle and internal organs. The hope is that the Cairo Museum, the leading museum of Egyptology, will also be involved in the project. Tissue

taken from as many mummies as possible will be taken to Manchester Museum, where the project is co-ordinated by Rosalie David, Keeper of Egyptology. The team hopes to carry out DNA fingerprinting to establish the relationships between the mummies. The first project, New Scien-

tist magazine reports, will be a study of the parasitic disease schistosomiasis, still prevalent in Egypt. This disease is carried by blood flukes, which have already been found in several mummies.

Proving the relationship between the boy Pharaoh Tutankhamun and Akhenaten is another possibility, albeit more distant. Reference books declare that Tutankhin-law but some experts have suggested that he may have been his son. Akhenaten is believed to

have had Fröhlich's syndrome, an inherited disorder caused by disturbed function of the pituitary gland. Tutankhamun does not appear to have suffered the

No mummy of Akhenaten exists so direct DNA comparison is impossible. But if Tutankhamun turns out to carry a copy of the Fröhlich's gene, it would strengthen those who believe that he was the son of Akhenaten.

Both Akhenaten and Tutankhamun were pharaohs in the New Kingdom and ruled Egypt in the 14th century BC.

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Councillors ban 'distasteful' film

صكنا من الاجل

Westminster calls for scenes to be cut from Crash

By Dalya Alberge, arts correspondent

WESTMINSTER council yesterday banned the controversial film Crash from its cinemas unless the British Board of Film Censors gives it an 18-certificate and insists on

The film, which explores sexual gratification over car crashes and the supposed attraction of mutilated bodies, contains three scenes which the 12 councillors on the licensing sub-committee found too distasteful. They called on the board-of censors to cut a scene in which a man has intercourse with a woman whose scarred legs are in calipers, and to remove one of the character's lines about car crashes being "fertilising and not destructive". They also took offence over the final sex scene involving a blood-spat-tered and bruised woman.

At a meeting after a private screening at Columbia Tristar, the distributors, the councillors voiced concern that impressionable teenagers might be inspired to re-enact scenes from the film. Anne Barns, one of the councillors, said: "I didn't enjoy it at all. I am extremely worried about the impact it might have on 18 or 19-year-olds who think them-

selves very clever and tend to like fast cars, and probably put two and two together and possibly try things out. I would certainly ask for an 18 certificate if we cannot ban it."

Dr David Avery, another councillor, said: "I certainly don't think this is a film which will encourage crime or disor-der or racial hatred against any section of society. I would have thought it was allowable viewing for adults if they don't mind degradation and violence towards women."

The final decision was made at a 45-minute meeting by three councillors under the chairmanship of John Bull. He said: "The committee has serious concerns about the film. It is clearly better for the film to be awarded a national certificate and we hope, therefore, the BBFC will properly address councillors' concerns.

"However, the sub-committee would be reluctant for the film to be shown in Westminster in the form shown today. To preserve the council's position, we have decided as a purely interim measure to prohibit the film showing in Westminster. We will reconsider as soon as possible after the BBFC decision." Mr Bull



David Cronenberg, director of Crash. Councillors believed that his film could encourage copycat incidents

added: "It's a good film. It's exceedingly well made. If you are asking me personally whether I enjoyed the film. I can be quite honest, I could live without it."

Jeremy Thomas, Crash's executive producer, told the councillors that the film had won the special jury prize at this year's Cannes Film Festival and that it had been accepted worldwide. "There hearts, gets the opportunity to be seen in an uncut form by has not been one copycat the British public." incident and traffic statistics have remained static," he said. Hearing the verdict, Chris

Auty, co-executive producer of the film, said: "All we really want is that our work of art. which is how we think of this film from the bottom of our

A BBFC spokeswoman said: We are in the process of

getting our 22 examiners to see We are unable to say whether our decision will be announced in two weeks or a month or more.

It was Virginia Bottomley,

the Heritage Secretary, who prompted Westminster's action. She drew attention to the fact that, under the Cinemas Act of 1985, local authorities have the powers to ban any film within their area. Her spokeswoman said: didn't think it was suitable."

Film reviews, pages 37, 38

Connery breaks his bond with Whitehall

By Shirley English

SEAN CONNERY, who risked life and limb for Her Majesty's Government as James Bond, will call on fellow Scots tonight to abandon rule from Westminster.

Mr Connery, 66, stars in a

party political broadcast by the Scottish National Party. urging his countrymen to build on the return of the Stone of Scone to Scotland by voting for independence and a Scottish Parliament. The Edinburgh-born actor has been an SNP member since 1991. although he lives in Spain and rarely visits his native land. In the television broadcast.

he claims that the 4101b sandstone slab, the ancient corona-tion stone of Scottish Kings. removed by the English 700 years ago, was returned to Scotland last week only because of "jitters" in London.

The stone will be handed back on St Andrew's Day. November 30, when it makes a ceremonial journey up the Royal Mile to the Crown Room of Edinburgh Castle. Mr Connery says: "We need

more than stones in Scotland. We need real power and a real parliament. The return of the stone is the result of pressure from Scotland for change. London is worried about the mood of Scotland and the overwhelming desire for a parliament. London is beginning to hear us and to pay

SATURDAY IN THE TIME:



DEAR DR ZHIVAGO ...

The letters that reveal the real love story behind Dr Zhivago, in the



SMALL AND CHIC Where the petite can find the perfect fit, in Weekend

JANE MACQUITTY'S **TOP 100 WINES** WEEKEND MONEY: OUR

AWARD-WINNING PERSONAL FINANCE GUIDE 7-DAY TV AND RADIO GUIDE

Hawking's TV history of time

PROFESSOR Stephen Hawking is to present a BBC series on the history of the universe. The six-part series, which has been almost three years in the making, is based on his theories in his bestselling book A Brief History of Time. It will be screened on BBC2 next

summer. Professor Hawking, who suffers from motor neurone disease and uses a voice synthesiser to speak, has se-lected most of the scientists who will appear. Stephen Hawking's Universe will trace ries from Galileo through Einstein to the present day. The crew is currently filming

in the United States. Among other documentaries announced by the BBC yesterday was a 24-part history of the Cold War produced by Sir Jeremy Isaacs, the retiring chief executive of the Royal Opera House, who produced The World At War. Sir David Attenborough is follow-ing his Private Life Of Plants with Life of Birds on BBCl.

Editor of Punch is dismissed

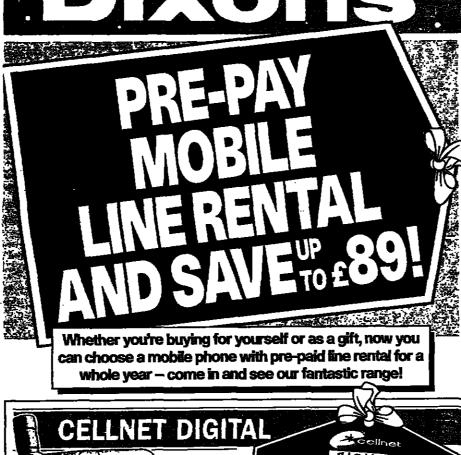
By CAROL MIDGLEY

THE man entrusted with raising Punch magazine from the dead was sacked yester-day after two months as editor. The decision to dismiss Peter McKay followed "con-tractual differences" over his column in the Daily Mail.

The satirical magazine was given a £3 million relaunch in September, courtesy of Mohamed Al Fayed, the chairman of Harrods. Stewart Steven, chairman of the pub-lisher Liberty, said that he was sorry to lose Mr McKay, a former Evening Standard columnist and editor of Sunday Today.

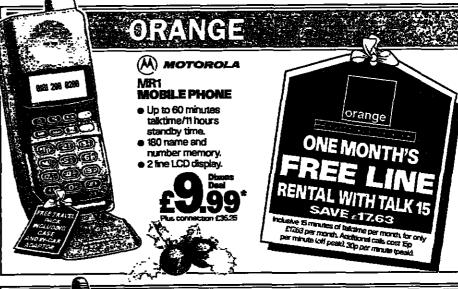
Mr Steven said: "I appointed Peter McKay as editor of Punch and it is therefore with regret that this decision had to be taken. My confidence and the confidence of this company and everybody involved in the future of Punch remains total.

He was acting as editor until a successor could be found, Mr McKay was not available for comment.











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English teenagers slump in world maths league

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

SH controversy broke out education standards yess sliding down the world ue in mathematics but roving in science.

ests of 13-year-olds in 41 ntries showed English puwell below the average in thematics. The results, first closed in The Times in ie, showed England slipg from 3 per cent above the emational norm in 1990 to 3 cent below last year. English pupils came out

orly in all areas of matheitics, apart from probability d data representation. Boys id girls were well behind eir counterparts in most her countries in the basics of actions and number work. In science, however, Engnd was on a par with Japan. ith about one in six pupils in ne top 10 per cent internationlly. Pupils were above the lobal average in physics, hemistry, environmental, arth and life science.

The findings reignited the lispute over standards which greeted yesterday's school league tables for England and Wales. Ruth Lea, head of policy at the Institute of Directors, said the evidence from industry was of falling standards. She complained that pidgin French and German were being taught to pupils, answers in mathematics les-

incomplete. "The Education Department says that literacy and numeracy skills have improved, but they are still dire." Ms Lea told a press conference in London

Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, said the Third International Mathematics and Science Study showed English schools were not doics, but the Government was already taking action

David Blunkett, the Shadow Education and Employment Secretary, said the study showed standards in mathematics were falling and Brit-

sons that were sometimes ain was lagging badly behind incomplete. "The Education most of its international competitors. This is an appalling league table indictment for the Tories, who have had 18 years to raise standards.

England was sixteenth out of 25 countries where the groups of pupils taking tests in mathematics were considered comparable. Singapore was clearly top, with France, Hong Kong and Ireland among the countries overtaking since the last surve

The 3,500 pupils taking the tests in English schools got more than half the questions wrong in algebra and propor-tionality. In the highest-scor-

QUESTIONS OUR PUPILS GOT WRONG

I (number sense): a person's heart is beating 72 times a minute. At this rate, about how many times does it beat in one hour? a: 20,000; b: 42,000; c: 4,200; d: 420. Fewer than half of the English pupils chose the correct answer.

compared with two thirds in all the countries surveyed.

is equivalent to M + M + M + M? a: M + 4: b: 4M: C M4: d:

Only 41.6 per cent of English pupils in year 9 chose correctly, against 81.6 per cent for the highest-scoring country.

3 (proportionality): a class has 28 students. The ratio of girls to boys is 4:3. How many girls are in the class? English pupils in year 9 did better than the median country, with

"Hurry-this weekend is

41.9 per cent getting the correct answer (the median was 36.9 per cent). But they were still far behind the top-scoring country.

your last chance

offers."

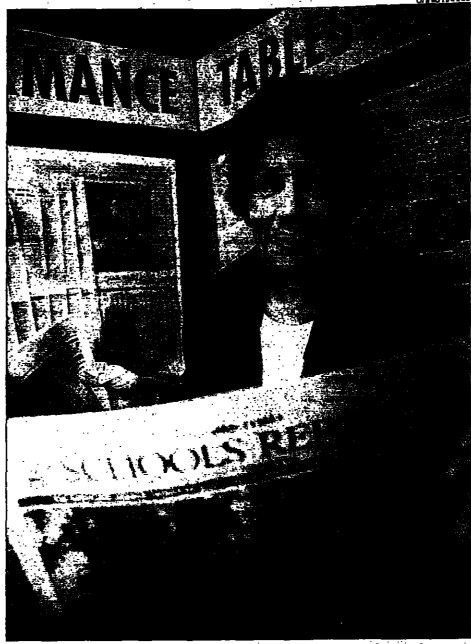
Far East, pupils were getting at least four out of five right. Researchers involved in the

project said it was impossible to tell why England's position possible causes to be investigated for a follow-up report next spring are the style of teaching and the length of time devoted to the subject.

Dr Wendy Keys, a member of the team from the National Foundation for Educational Research responsible for the British end of the project, said pupils were spending about 20 minutes less on mathematics than when the last survey was carried out. The time allotted to science had risen by about the same amount.

Dr Seamus Heggarty. another member of the team, said that, although England's international standing was lower, the tests could not demonstrate whether absolute standards had declined. He said there was little evidence of under-achievement in England. The range of schools was similar to that in most comparable countries, but too many were concentrated towards the bottom of the scale.

In science, only five countries exceeded the English pupils' performance. Singapore was again the top nation, with the Czech Republic, Japan, Korea and Hungary the others ahead of England.



Gillian Shephard with yesterday's Times supplement on examination league tables. She conceded that English pupils were not doing well in mathematics

PARENTS of pupils who play

truant have been issued with

radio pagers that will inform

them within seconds if their

children have absconded. The pagers have already

proved their worth at

Highbury Grove School in Islington, north London,

where the attendance rate of

two of three regular truants

Bromcom, the company be-

ing with five other schools. It believes the pagers will be

vital in tackling truancy, ab-sentecism and misbehaviour.

Henry Jones, deputy head teacher of Highbury Grove, a

boys' school with L000 pupils,

said: "We do not have a

truancy problem here but there are isolated incidents as

in most schools." The system,

he said, was particularly eff-ective where parents of tru-

ants were supportive. He added: "There are some cases

when parents collude with

their children in their absence

and that is harder for us to

The pagers will be able to

deal with."

has improved markedly.

Parents given bleeps

to find truant pupils

operate in scores of schools

that use the Electronic Atten-

(EARS). The handheld com-

puter enables teachers to

check at roll-call whether a

Schools equipped with the system will be able to send a

message to a central comput-

er, which will automatically

relay an instant radio signal to the bleeper carried by the

and send them to school.

Bob Bartless of Bromcom said yesterday that the pagers, which cost about £100 a year

to run, were a simple techno

logical solution. They are

especially effective in those

households where both par ents are working and in

homes in urban areas and

there are many, which do not

the drive to make parents

more responsible for their

children's behaviour and is in line with government and

opposition thinking." added.

"The use of pagers is part of

have a telephone.

pupil is absent

Inspectors link boring lessons to expulsions

By DAVID CHARTER ... EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

SCHOOLS will be ordered by inspectors today to curb the rising number of expulsions by trying harder to interest difficult pupils instead of giv-

ing up on them.
Ofsted, the school inspection agency, will disclose wide variations between the numbers of pupils expelled by similar schools in inner-city areas. Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, believes head teachers with high expulsion rates should be more willing to try alternative solutions such as vocational courses. He says the number of boring lessons does nothing to half the total of expelled children, which has quadrupled since 1990 to more than 12,000 a year.

However, Mr Woodhead says the dumping of unruly children by grammar and grant-maintained schools on local authority comprehensives could not be blamed for creating a sink school like The creating a sink school like The Ridings in Halifax.

Writing in The Times today, he says that one of Halifax's schools would have been bottom of the local pecking order, whether or not there were grammar and grant-maintained schools in the town. "If parents have the right to choose their children's schools, some schools are going to prove more popular than others, and one is likely to become the most unpopular

His words will heighten ension between Ofsted, the inspection agency, and Cal-derdale council Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, yesterday accused council offici als of trying to avoid a full inspection by Ofsted, which she wants to start next month.

Ofsted can inspect a school only if invited by the local authority, But Mrs Shephard said that if Calderdale continued to delawits invitation, she would order an inspection of more of its schools. Michael Hispins chairman of education in Calderdale, said that he would welcome an inspection next year but the authority's parents. They would be expriority was to devote pected to find their children energies to the recovery of



No wonder **Canada's National** Colours are Red and White.

Last spring the ice flows ran red with the blood of over 268,000" seals. Now government advisors and politicians hope to increase the kill quota, 400,000 seals could be butchered next year. And of these, roughly three quarters will be baby seal pups. Just days or weeks old. They'll be shot or clubbed to death. And those seals that escape wounded will die an agonizing death beneath the ice. These are the "lucky" ones. Recent evidence indicates some will recent evidence indicates evidence indicates some will recent evidence indicates evidence evidence indicates evidence indicates evidence evidence

Key decisions will be made in the next few weeks so your help is vital.

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TUNNEL FIRE

Le Monde

buries blaze

on page 23 FROM BEN MACINTYRE

IN PARIS WHERE the British press has reacted with dismay and anger to the Channel Tunnel fire, the French media has played

down the incident, portraying it as a tragedy averted by swift and responsible action by the

authorities. Le Monde yester-day devoted only two para-

graphs to the story on page 23,

recording that the tunnel's

Only one national news-

paper criticised the handling

of the blaze. On Tuesday

French television stations

broadcast footage of earlier

trial-runs for emergency evacuations, showing calm and

smiling "passengers" being

led to safety. News reports insisted all the necessary

safety procedures were com-plied with". Le Parisien of-fered the headline: "How a

catastrophe was avoided on a

The single exception was

France-Soir, which attacked

Eurotunnel in a front-page

"shameless lies" in statements

story relegated to page 13.

closure had been extended.

Privers hire tough French lawyer for ompensation fight

From BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

lonry drivers who nary escaped death in the mel Tunnel have hired of France's toughest and flamboyant lawyers to sent them in any legal n arising from the fire. irty drivers have formed efence committee" repread by Gilbert Collard, a seilles advocate with a for publicity, who most tily represented the famof victims after the mass de last year by members e Solar Temple cult. want to know exactly

t happened this week. We t to establish the truth," M ard, 48, said yesterday. said that he would be stigating security proces surrounding the fire seeking to establish legal onsibility for the accident. will be looking into ther the fire was already ning when the train en-i the tunnel and whether tunnel operators knew

l Collard specialises in r-profile cases and has sharply criticised by colleagues for promoting self into what Le Monde ed France's "lawyer show-The paper complained: impossible to watch any ne major French television shows without coming

ıss him." epending on the results of French judicial investiganow under way, Euronel or Le Shuttle could face e compensation claims, M lard said. He has regisd his clients as civil plain-: attached to the investdon, meaning that he will re access to all documents iting to the accident. ach of the drivers has

de a statement to French ice as part of the legal uiry launched by the public secutor in Boulogne. M lard said that it was too ly to predict the possible of damages claims, but he ed: "This is a company

with considerable financial interests". The French Court of Appeals last week upheld a ruling ordering British Airways to pay more than £3 million in compensation to French passengers taken hostage when their plane landed in Kuwait just hours after the

Iraqi invasion in 1990. Many of the lorry drivers were in tears yesterday after reliving their experience when they were taken to a tunnel depot to collect their personal belongings. Roy Keys, 53, from Tain, Highland, said: We were escorted one by one to our cabs and allowed to get personal belongings from them. A lot of the drivers are



for being a show-off

very upset. It's their life in

Denis Bracqbien, a French lorry driver living in Scotland, said that many of the passengers had lost their livelihoods. We are afraid that some people are trying to duck their responsibilities, and we want to have these established

We want to obtain a written acceptance of responsibility that we can at least present to insurance companies, because some of us find ourselves completely ruined today, without lorries, money or papers."

Eurotunnel is accommodat-

Collard: has reputation

ing the drivers in an hotel in

Calais and has asked them not to leave until the investigation some decided to return home last night. Many are selfemployed and want to be compensated for loss of earnings.

Mark Ford, 32, a driver from Heathfield, East Sussex, who was taking frozen bread for Sainsbury's from Paris to London, said: "It was shock-

عكامن الاجل

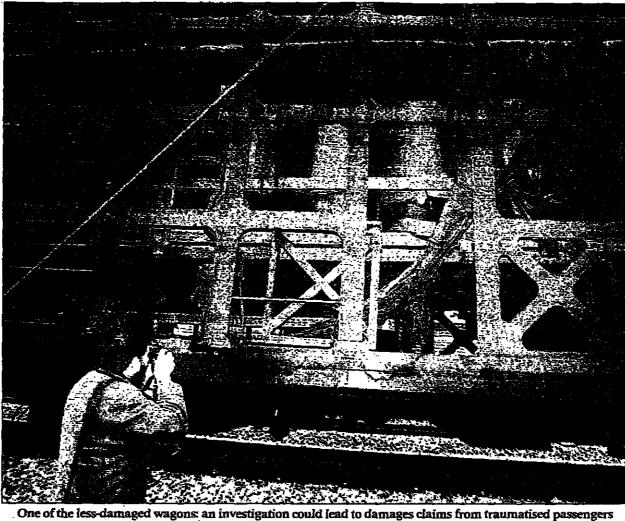
ing to see the truck. I knew it would be pretty bad but I did not realise how bad. Every-thing was covered in thick "I think the insurance company will write my truck off. I have lost valuables, but noth-

ing is more valuable than your life. I had photos and teddy bears that my children had given me but they have all been ruined." ☐ Lawyers said yesterday that anybody caught in the fire would be better off suing in the

English courts (Frances Gibb writes). Ian Walker, a partner with Russell Jones & Walker, said that the English courts tended to award higher damages than in France, and for a broader range of injury. The procedure in France is

slightly different, with the courts tending to decide the amount of damages on the basis of a court-appointed expert instead of the evidence from experts on both sides," he said. The French courts did not tend readily to recognise psychological injury. A third factor would be the risk of costs, which are unrecoverable in the French courts. Mr Walker said that he

would expect most people caught in the tunnel to have suffered from a substantial degree of post-traumatic stress, for which damages were about £3,000. Claims could be much higher for drivers who might be too frightened to enter the tunnel



Company will lose Shuttle passengers 'should be separated from their cars' £1m revenue a day

By Marianne Curphey, insurance correspondent By Jonathan Prynn, transport correspondent

EUROTUNNEL faces a bill running into tens of millions of pounds for compensation. repairs and loss of earnings after the Channel Tunnel fire. For every day that the tunnel is closed the operator will lose about £1 million in revenue. Although that will be covered by an insurance policy that pays out for business interruption, the effect of bad publicity on future business is unquantifiable.

Eurotunnel had expected strong demand for tickets before Christmas and during the new year. As well as missing out on extra sales, the company also has to repair extensive damage to a 600-metre section of the northbound tunnel.

Letters, page 23 day that it was fully covered.

It has to carry what it describes as "high levels of insurance" to meet its contractual agreements with the British and French Governments. Although compensation payments are likely to total tens of millons, they will be low in comparison with the cost of the 1992 IRA bombing campaign in the City of London (£350 million), the 1985 Manchester air crash (£20 million), and the storms cost grounds. "That decision is of January 1993 (£100 million). unacceptable," he said.

Eurotunnel will also have to compensate the train operator Eurostar for periods when the tunnel is closed. Eurostar has been running 44 trains a day between Waterloo station and Paris and Brussels and usually carries between 10,000 and 12,000 passengers

THE safety of Le Shuttle car trains came under scrutiny yesterday after consumer bodies, safety groups and fire officers called for passengers to be separated from their vehicles in the Channel Tunnel. Mike Fordham, assistant general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, criticised Eurotunnel and the Government for refusing to redesign passenger shuttle carriages on

Unlike freight shuttles, drivers and passengers on the car service sit in their vehicles during the 35-minute crossing. Before departure, giant fire doors divide up the train into fire proof compartments. If a fire breaks out, as one did in December 1994, passengers are instructed by Eurotunnel

staff to pass into an adjoining compartment through air lock doors to escape the blaze. The doors are designed to withstand fire for 30 minutes,

by which time the train will, it is hoped, have emerged from the other end of the tunnel. A spray of the inert gas halon from the ceiling of the compartments is also supposed to smother the fire after about ten minutes and there are water foam extinguishers on the train. Only as a last resort will passengers evacu-

ate the train. Harry Beckingham, a fire adviser to the British Safety Council, said that a fire could trigger chaos. Many passengers would not speak English and there would be blind and disabled people on board. The ten-member Channel

Tunnel Safety Authority has the power to withhold from Eurotunnel permission to operate trains through the tunnel if its safety demands are not met. It has five British and five French members, with the chairmanship alternating annually between heads of the

delegations. Edward Ryder, 65, former Chief Inspector of Nuclear Installations, is head of the British group and is currently chairman of the authority. The other British members are Peter Moss, a senior Tranport Department civil servant, Jeremy Beech, County Fire Officer of Kent, Sandra Caldwell, senior inspector at the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), and Vic Colman. the most senior railway safety inspector at the HSE.

Budget Message to Kenneth Clarke

Many organisations and interests have no doubt been sending you their ideas for the Budget next week. You know that charities and voluntary organisations play a vital role in providing a wide range of services to people in need. We believe that all governments, whatever their political colour, have the responsibility to try and set a positive environment within which charities and voluntary organisations can work. Next week's budget gives you the opportunity to do what you can for charity. If you have anything to give away, now is the time to help charities help others. So, why don't you:-

> 1 Let charities keep the £350 million they currently pay in irrecoverable VAT?

2 Abolish the ceiling on the payroll deduction scheme whereby employees can contribute to charities through their pay packets?

3 Lower the Gift Aid limit?

4 Introduce tax reliefs for people lending money to social investment funds?

5 Cut the red tape surrounding charity trading?



Charities Aid Foundation Registered Charity Number 268369



Charity Finance Directors Group



Charities Tax Reform Group



National Council for Voluntary Organisations: Registered Charity Number 225922



Institute of Charity Fundraising Managers: Registered Charity Number 291018

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Hattersley before the beak after dog gets the bird

ROY HATTERSLEY was, in the doghouse yesterday. He was up before the bench after his "exuberant and overfriendly" pet. Buster the Staf-fordshire bull terrier, inflicted fatal injuries on a goose. Worse, the offence took place in a royal park.

Buster, rescued from Battersea Dogs' Home last year, is very much the apple of his master's eye. Speaking out-side his home before yesterday's hearing at Bow Street Magistrates' Court, the former Labour Party deputy eader said that he was sorry for the goose. "Buster has been as good as gold since. He is not quite conscious of what is happening. I haven't punished Buster and will be taking him for a trip in the country."

In a letter to the court Mr Hattersley admitted allowing Buster to worry wildfowl and letting him off the leash, both breaches of the regulations in St James's Park in London. He had lost his grip on the dog's lead while clearing up after Two days after the incident.

Mr Hattersley apologised for Buster's actions in a national newspaper. "The goose came out of the bushes first - half flopping and half flying - and came to land on the far side of the railings," he was reported as saying.

Buster, standing on his hind legs with his front paws

is ... exuberant and overfriendly ... I know that is what mothers say about their sons before the court passes

Richard Heatley, for the prosecution, told the court: Police were patrolling in St James's Park when officers came across a greylag goose which was very badly injured. In fact it was close to death. Subsequent investigations revealed the injuries were caused by a small brown dog in the charge of Mr Hattersley."

In a statement read by the clerk of the court. Mr Hattersley said that Buster



was not intentionally let off the leash, but broke away. "He was naturally most disturbed that his dog had killed a goose and very much regretted that," the clerk said. "He walks in St James's Park most mornings with his dog and has taken particular care to ensure that nothing of this sort happens

After a hearing lasting just over four minutes, Mr Hattersley, MP for Birmingham Sparkbrook, was fined £25 for the first offence and £50 for the second. He was ordered to pay £30 costs.

Mr Hattersley's staff at Westminster denied last night that Buster and his master were inseparable. "I can assure you that he is not with his master tonight. Roy is addressing his constituents in Birmingham and then has a meeting in Warrington," a

However, Mr Hattersley has said that, on his retirement from politics at the next election, he intends to spend as much time as he can walking in the Peak District with his

The pair apparently have much in common. After a recent visit to Cruft's, Mr Hattersley said: "Do not believe that owners grow to look like their dogs, or that dogs develop the appearance of their owners. People choose breeds which seem to possess the qualities that they most



Judge increases Reynolds libel damages to 1p

By Michael Horsnell

their view that the words complained of did not damage

plained about a book. Exodus.

suggesting he had performed

17.000 "experiments" without

anaesthetics at Auschwitz. Counsel for the book's pub-

lishers said that if Dr Derine

had no reputation requiring

compensation, adequate pay-

ment might be the "smallest

farthing but a halfpenny." The

Boaks, a parliamentary candi-

date in the 1966 general elec-

In June 1967, William

jury agreed.

a person's reputation.

ALBERT REYNOLDS, the temptuous damages to reflect former Irish Prime Minister, had his damages raised from nothing to 1p yesterday by the judge who presided over his ive-week libel action. Mr Justice French ruled in the High Court that he was entitled to nominal damages after a jury found on Tuesday that he had been defamed but made no award.

His ruling, for which he said he would give his reasons at a later date, may have a bearing on whether Mr Reynolds should pay the entire costs of the litigation, estimated at more than El million.

Unbeknown to the jury, The Sunday Times had paid £5,005 into court. Mr Reynolds refused to accept this sum. leaving himself liable to bear the legal costs incurred by both sides after September 20.

the date of the payment.

The judge will have to decide whether Mr Reynolds should also pay the newspaper's costs since August 1995. when he issued his writ. After hearing arguments from both sides, the judge said he hoped to rule on the issue today.

The jurors decided that Mr Reynolds's claim that he had been libelled was true in substance. Mr Reynolds, 64. sued after being accused by The Sunday Times of lying to the Dail in a report headed "Goodbye gombeen man. Why a fib too far proved fatal".

The newspaper, which pleaded qualified privilege and justification, is seeking payment of all its costs by Mr Reynolds. He accepts liability the date of the £5,005 payment. James Price, QC, for The Sunday Times, said the conclusion could not be avoided

that the jury found the article

to be so nearly true that ignominious damages would suffice". Lord Williams, QC, for Mr Reynolds, said it was consistent with the "broad justice of the case" that each party should bear its own costs before the date of the paper's payment to court. Juries regularly award conReynolds: ruling may

tion, was awarded £1 after he complained about a pre-election article saying he was out of work and living on benefit. In January 1974, Lady Docker sued the Sunday Express over an article alleging she was banned from a Jersey hotel for using "naughty words". The jury awarded a halfpenny damages.

In November the same year, Lieutenant-Colonel John Brooks was awarded a halfpenny damages after he sued the Sunday People over alletrap" for young girls.

William Rees-Mogg, page 1

How political animals give owners a human face

NOT since Humphrey. the Cabinet Office cat, was accused of killing ducklings and sparrows in the gardens and window boxes of No 10 has a senior politician suffered such embarrassment at the paws of a pet. Animals are usually a much safer bet than children when posing for photo opportunities. Only Michael

Foot's Nepalese mountain dog, Dizzie, was singled out for sneers during the general election campaign of 1983. Mr Foot, who was then Labour leader, was shown in a donkey jacket waving a stick at photographers while walking his pet on Hampstead Heath. The animal bared its teeth.

That was an exception, Paddy, the late Lord Wilson of Rievaulx's round of applause whenever it

cameras. It chased sticks to order while the Wilsons were on holiday in the Isles of Scilly and seemed to smile at the cameras while its owners picnicked on the beach.

Other political dogs enjoy an even stronger place in British affections. Offa, the eyes of Labour's David Blunkett, would win a spontaneous appeared on BBC1's Question Time. Lucy, the bitch who replaced Offa, is proving even more popular. Conservative MPs often bring the black labrador-retriever treats at Westminster to enjoy before Prime Minister's

Chris Patten, the Governor of Hong Kong, has such affection for Whisky and Soda, his family's pair of Highland terriers, that he has

rules as absurd. Unless the law is changed, Whisky and Soda will be behind the wire for six months after their owners' return to Britain when Hong Kong is handed back to China

condemned Britain's quarantine

Mr Patten told Sue Lawley on BBC Radio 4's Desert Island Discs this month that the prospect filled

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Source: Savings Market, Summer 1996.

Richard Branson putting a rocket up

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THE justice system for young offenders is condemned today as disorganised, inefficient and ineffective. The Audit Commission says that unless action is taken to overhaul it and tackle youth crime and its causes effectively, the country faces a further increase in

lawlessness over the next decade. The commission's report, Misspent Youth, says the current system is time-consuming, wastes money and provides little monitor-

THE legal system that deals

with young offenders is slow,

Police launch proceedings

against two out of every five

young people accused of an offence, but prosecutions are

not particularly efficient, the

Audit Commission report

says. The organisations in-

volved in the courts process

did not agree on the objectives.

detained, a police officer must

fill in 40 forms which, together

with interviews, take between

four and five hours to com-

plete. An accused person app-

ears in court an average of

four times over an average

period of 70 days before being

sentenced. The figure in some

areas reached as many as 170

The study found that four

months passed on average

between arrest and sentence.

at a cost for each young person

of £2,500. "The youth courts

process is often complex and

lengthy. It takes up much of

the time of social workers,

lawyers, police officers and others, which is expensive,"

In spite of the time and

money spent, the report says

that half the proceedings against young people are dis-

continued, dismissed or end in

a discharge.
Four out of five Youth Court

cases watched by the otherssion were adjourned.

sons included: the young

person had not sumed sugar

the report says.

Once a young offender is

costly and complicated.

than a decade ago to address offending by young people. Pewer young people are now convicted by the courts, even allowing for the fall in the number of people aged 10 to 17, and an increasing proportion of those who are found guilty are discharged. At ten of the 12 sites visited, little or no work was done with young offenders outside the court system to address their

David Maclean, a Home Office.

Inefficiencies cost

£2,500 for each

juvenile sentenced

BY OUR HOME CORRESPONDENT

presentence reports needed to

be prepared; the defence law-

yer had not been briefed; legal

time of youth justice workers, lawyers, and witnesses includ-

ing police officers. It also

means a long delay between a

young person's arrest and

sentence, which makes any

punishment less meaningful,"

the report says.
It highlights the cost of

holding a young person re-manded in custody. One case

cost a local authority £7,200 to

transport a youngster to and

from court on 19 occasions.

plus £64,000 for secure accom-

Local authority secure units,

providing 24 hour supervised

care, cost between £1,800 and

modation for 216 days.

"It takes up much of the

aid not been sorted out.

ing of the impact of various was acting to tackle truancy and punishments. "Overall, less is done indiscipline in schools and to stress the importance of parental responsibility. He dismissed a recommendation that local authorities be given an enhanced role in dealing with juvenile offenders. "Punishment must be a matter for the police, the probation service and the courts, not local authorities "

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said the report was a damning commentary on the failure of the youth justice system and the Government's record. "It sup-Minister, said the Government ports Labour's view that the system

£3,450 a week. The latter

figure was roughly seven

times the cost of keeping a

child at Eton and more than

Three out of five young

offenders identified by the

police are cautioned rather

than prosecuted through the

courts. The report admits that

although giving a caution works well for first-time of-

fenders, it becomes less effect-

ive once a pattern of criminal

A critical factor is that few

young people who are cau-

tioned receive any further help

to cope with their offending or

commission found that, of the

cases it observed, 65 per cent of young offenders sentenced in

court had been excluded from

school or had played truant

regularly. It pointed out a

behaviour has developed.

antisocial behaviour.

twice the cost of staying at The

Ritz for a week.

ties and young offenders alike."

The commission says that the present arrangements fail young people, who were not being guided away from offending, and their victims, who continued to be plagued by vandalism, arson and theft. The report estimates that 150,000 juvenile offenders are dealt with each year in England and Wales. In 1994, two out of every five known offenders were under the age of 21, and a quarter under 18.

The commission suggests that

the under-18s commit about seven

retailers, individuals and manufacturers. Only 3 per cent of those offences lead to an arrest and action by the criminal justice Youth crime costs public system. services £1 billion a year, which includes £600 million spent by the police in identifying young offend-

The commission finds that crime tends to be concentrated on a few victims and that criminal behaviour is largely confined to a few areas populated by large numbers

ers and £200 million by social

of poor, single adult households with poorly supervised youngsters. Even when young offenders are punished, the report suggests there is a "worrying lack of information" about the effect of different sentences on reoffending. It found that little was done to address offending behaviour and in most areas no attempt was made to monitor reoffending after different sen-

tences had been imposed. Few sentences were sufficiently intensive to challenge the behav-iour of persistent offender in a way likely to prove effective. A study of

103 youngsters given a supervision order found that they were expected to spend an hour a week with a social worker, which was not enough to be effective. The priority for youth justice workers was to form good relationships. The study was based on 12 visits to different parts of England and

and interviews with 100 young criminals on supervision. ☐ Misspent Youth: Young People and Crime (Audit Commission:

Wales: a survey of 600 young offenders sentenced by the courts:

Dutch scheme to halt petty

they recompense victims and renair damage themselves (Stephen Farrell writes).

Halt officials claim that 60 per cent either stop or reduce their criminal behaviour. against 25 per cent of those prosecuted. The programme cost £6.1 million in 1995, when it dealt with 17,000 cases. That is expected to rise to £10.2 mil-

crime praised A DUTCH scheme to tackle juvenile crime allows offenders to avoid prosecution if

The Halt project, set up in Rotterdam 15 years ago to deal with vandalism, petty theft and violence by 12 to 18year-olds, is highlighted by the Audit Commission report as a potentially more effective method of dealing with young offenders. The juvenile must suggest the punishment, such as paying reparations to the victim and giving up Saturdays and holidays to repair damaged property. If no punishment can be

How cash could be redirected to prevention

dramatic increase in the num-MINISTERS are urged to redirect ber of youngsters excluded from school. The number of cash into measures aimed at identifypupils permanently excluded ing children at risk of being sucked for disruptive behaviour rose into a life of crime (Richard Ford writes). The Audit Commission also from around 3,000 in 1990-91 to around 11,000 in 1994-95, it calls for local government to be given the role of co-ordinating a national Of young offenders on sudrive to tackle antisocial behaviour ision orders interviewed and the causes of juvenile crime.

The commission recommends a by the commission, 60 per cent vere not engaged in work, greater use of "caution-plus" schemes training or education: 70 per cent took drugs of some kind, where police formally warn a young offender and other organisations work with the family to tackle offending becannabis being the most widely used, but Ecstasy, cocaine haviour. In some schemes the youngand heroin also being popuster would pay compensation to the lar. Half admitted to getting victim. The report estimates that if 20 per cent of young offenders prosecuted

in court were instead warned and sent to units to deal with offending behaviour, £40 million could be saved and spent preventive measures.

Andrew Foster, controller of the commission, said: "The opportunity exists to redirect money that is inefficiently used into preventive programmes targetted on early offenders. The prize for society is to break the cycle of antisocial behaviour that has become the day-to-day reality for so many young people."

The Government is to respond to growing concern over juvenile crime with a Green Paper next month which will set out ways of identifying and intervening early with children at risk of becoming offenders. It is likely to point to poor parenting, aggressive behaviour at an early age, truancy and school exclusion, unstable home life, poor education, and lack of training

and employment. Today's report calls for more help for parents, including programmes linking new parents with more experienced couples able to offer practical help. Health visitors should have a leading role in spotting the areas and families most at risk.

Local authorities who accommodate children under 18 are urged to consider charging parents who can afford to pay. A source said that the commission had been disturbed by the number of

families willing to put children out of the family home because of difficulties in relationships. The commission highlights a scheme

in Northamptonshire to keep young people out of the courts. The Diversion Unit brings together police, teachers. social workers, probation officers, youth workers and a psychiatric nurse to deal with young offenders.

Police refer new cases to the unit and the "punishment" is usually a treatment programme. Youngsters have to confront their crime and behaviour, accept their guilt, offer compensation to the victim, and work with their parents and the unit to ensure that they stay out of trouble.



A Dutch official supervising young offenders, who must give up free time to make amends for their crimes

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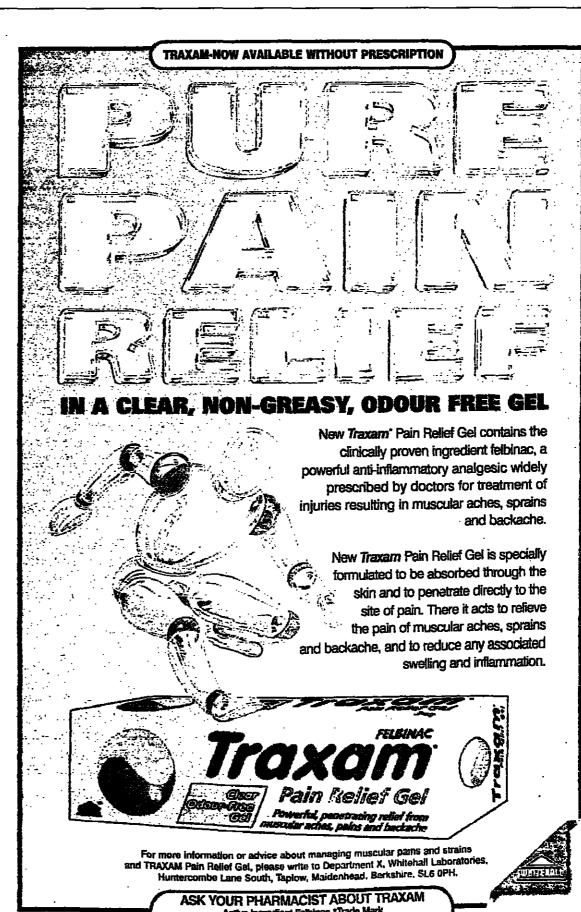
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Labour produces a line-by-line denial of Tory spending claims

CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tories tried yesterday to reassert Labour's image of a tax and spend party by presenting a list of 89 spending pledges which they said would cost £30 billion over five years.

Hours later Labour produced its own document, claiming that all 89 pledges were "Tory lies". Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, insisted that the only extra spending commitments were the employment pledges in the party's draft manifesto, costing a net £3 billion to be paid for by the windfall tax.

Mr Brown risked infuriating his own party by denying that there was any commitment to spend money on bringing back British Rail into public ownership and suggesting that the minimum wage

would cost nothing. As the propaganda war intensified the Tories insisted that the 89 commitments had been gleaned from speeches and comments made by Tony Blair and his frontbenchers over the past two years. But Tory party sources admitted

The few extra spending programmes to which Labour is publicly committed are:

Helping people under 25 and the long-term unemployed into work: £3 billion

■ Cutting health service waiting lists: £100 million

M Reducing class sizes for 5 to 7-year-olds: £168 million

■ Setting up leam-as-you-eam accounts: £150 million ■ Cutting VAT on fuel from 8% to 5%: £450 million

that they had made up several of the figures in the document on the basis of a "reasonable" guess at Labour's thinking. The paper, drawn up by William Waldegrave's special

adviser, Paul Gardner, includes precise costings on the national minimum wage. which Labour has not set, and spurious costings on social security changes and education measures which are not mentioned in any policy documents.

Some comments made by frontbenchers in 1994/95 have been overtaken by policy changes. But the document draws attention to Labour's reluctance to commit itself to a specific timetable or specific costings on several policies. The only spending Mr done yesterday was his programme to address youth and long-term unemployment. Labour has also made several specific commitments which involve reallocating existing resources The following are some of

the Tory claims and Labour's

Brown was prepared to con-

☐ Health service: The Tories say that phasing out private provision will cost £34 million. Labour says that t has no plans to phase it out.

☐ The minimum wage: The Tories say this will cost £3.7 billion a year. They base this on an hourly rate of half median male earnings plus a 50 per cent restoration of

Single parents: The Tories say that help for Labour insists that the plan

The wage will be decided by a million a year. Labour says that the initial low pay commission after the general election.

School sabbaticals:

teachers with ten years service

four months off, and those

with 15 years service, one year

Labour says that there is no

would be phased and offered only to some teachers if the

money was available within

The Tories say that Labour's

commitment to return to a

publicly owned and publicly

accountable railway will cost

the taxpayer £920 million a

mitment to bring back rail-ways into public ownership

depends on economic circum-

stances and transport priori-

ties. Gordon Brown says there

is no commitment to buy back

Labour says that the com-

existing resources.

cost will be paid for by a crackdown on fraud and in the long term the plans will pay The Tories claim that giving for themselves through reducsabbaticals to teachers with more than ten years service would cost £1.3 billion a year. ing benefit dependency. Tree cover: They base this on giving

The Tories say that Labour will spend £58 million increasing tree cover by 50 per cent. Labour says that it will set targets within existing ☐ Jobseekers' Allowance:

The Tories say that Labour's plans to abolish the allowance would cost £240 million. Labour says that it has no plan to abolish it.

Labour says that it will recoup £18 million more than the Tories' programme, with no net cost to the taxpayer. □ Nursery education

The Tories say that Labour will spend £665 million creating a nursery place for every three-year-old.

Labour says that it will provide a nursery place for all four-year-olds using funds from the Tories' nursery

Leading article, page 23



Ludicrous propaganda stunt is a sign of self-delusion Secretary, to ensure that civil

public spending. Gor-⊿don Brown's determination to be an Iron Chancellor and stamo on anything that might be seen as a spending pledge is genuine, yet in aggregate strains

credibility. However, the Tories have undermined their case with their ludicrously over-the-top propaganda stunt yesterday with the Daily Telegraph. The Tories are deluding themselves if they believe that the successful tax bombshell campaign of 1992 can be repeated

The Tory claim that the annual cost of Labour's spending commitments would be an extra £30 billion by the fifth year of a Parliament is a gross exaggeration. I do not know anyone who seriously believes that a Blair government would increase spending by anything like that amount, or raise taxes on the average family by £1.200 a year. Admittedly, some of Labour's promises, such as "creating a publicly owned,

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

publicly accountable railway system as economic circumstances and the priorities of transport policy allow". are so ambiguous as to defy meaning. But many of the 89 alleged commitments are nonexistent or flimsy. Some are either vague aspirations or would be undertaken only if money could be found from savings elsewhere. The real doubt about

Labour's plans is less melo-

dramatic and was only partially hinted at in yesterday's Tory dossier. It is not that Labour would embark on big new spending programmes. The danger is rather that it would not be rigorous in looking for savings. The To-ries have succeeded only in limiting the growth of spend-ing as a result of a series of controversial measures to save money - for example,

limiting social security entitle-

which Labour strongly opposed at the time. These savings have offset upward pressures on the core social programmes. Labour has now largely accepted these changes, though in other cases, such as the proposal to end compulsory competitive tendering in local authorities, the drive to reduce costs would be weakened.

Without a continued search for savings in existing programmes, a Labour government would find it impossible to prevent a rise in the overall

Labour is on weak ground here. A leaked memo from Alistair Darling, the Shadow Chief Secretary, revealed the difficulties he has faced in persuading colleagues to come up with savings. Only two areas have so far been publicly identified - shifting from the Assisted Places Scheme and cutting health service administration. But more savings need to be found. The flaw in Labour's rebuttal statement was the

money from within "existing Yesterday's salvoes between the parties can just be dis-missed as a tiresome skirmish in the long winter campaign - though they have forced Labour to clarify their position on many key policies. But the episode also raises questions about the validity of latest operation appears to have followed rules set out by

woolly references to finding

servants are not dragged into party controversy. But this may no longer be enough. Writing from his

experience as special adviser to Nigel Lawson in the Tories' first successful assault on Labour's tax and spending plans in 1987, Andrew Tyrie has urged the creation of a small, independent fiscal policy committee to monitor the presentation of government borrowing and spending plans. In his new pamphlet for the Social Market Foundation, The Prospects for Public Spending. Mr Tyrie argues that this committee should also look at opposition plans to provide "a better discipline on claims by politicians about the cost and effectiveness of their policies". It might help to provide a more authoritative and impartial framework. But it will not stop the politicians such costing exercises. The from squabbling about spend-

PETER RIDDELL come from.

Shadow Treasury 4 team costs Tory plans at £20bn

By ANDREW PIERCE POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR PARTY officials have costed the Tory party's own extra spending plans at more than £20 billion.

The shadow Treasury team arrived at the figure by the same route as Conservative Central Office used to cost Labour's plans. Researchers studied the speeches and articles of John Major and senior Cabinet ministers to pin down any pledges and aspirations.

The costing programme, which was drawn up Alistair Darling, Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, will be used extensively in the coming months to counter Tory claims of a Labour "tax bombshell".

The Prime Minister's pledge to abolish capital gains tax is estimated at £3 billion. His oft repeated wish to scrap inheritance tax would cost £1.5 billion, Labour says. The party estimates that the 5.000 biggest landowning estates in Britain would be £800 million better off.

The widely publicised com-mitment of Gillian Shephard. the Education Secretary, to create a grammar school in every town is estimated at £2 billion. The pledge by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, to cut the basic rate of income tax to 20p in the pound, which was reiterated yesterday by William Waldegrave, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, is estimated at £8 billion.

The commitment by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, to raise NHS spending by at least the rate of inflation in every year of the next government, is estimated at £5

The total extra spending comes to £19.5 billion. But Labour says that a range of other less expensive spending proposals, such as the introduction of workfare schemes for the long-term unemployed, would add up to a further £2

Mr Darling said: "We are now counting the Tory claims. We are challenging the Tories pay for their election promises. Where is the money to

Tax-saving scheme costs rise

By Arthur Leathley

Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet

PLANS to save money on tax collecting have led to huge increases in the cost of a private sector contract to run vital Inland Revenue services.

The El billion contract to computerise the new self-assessment system has increased by more than £600. million since it was awarded

to the US-based computer company Electronic Data Systems in 1994. The 60 per cent increase is to be referred to the National Audit Office, the public spending watchdog, which has promised to keep the contract under scrutiny after earlier controversy.

John Hutton, a Labout MP who has pressed for an inquiry, said last night: "Something

has gone seriously wrong with this vital contract and costs are running out of control."

The contract provoked controversy when it was awarded by William Waldegrave, then Public Service Minister, without an in-house bid from Inland Revenue staff being allowed. About 1,900 staff were transferred to the private

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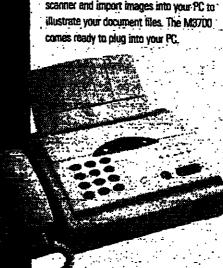
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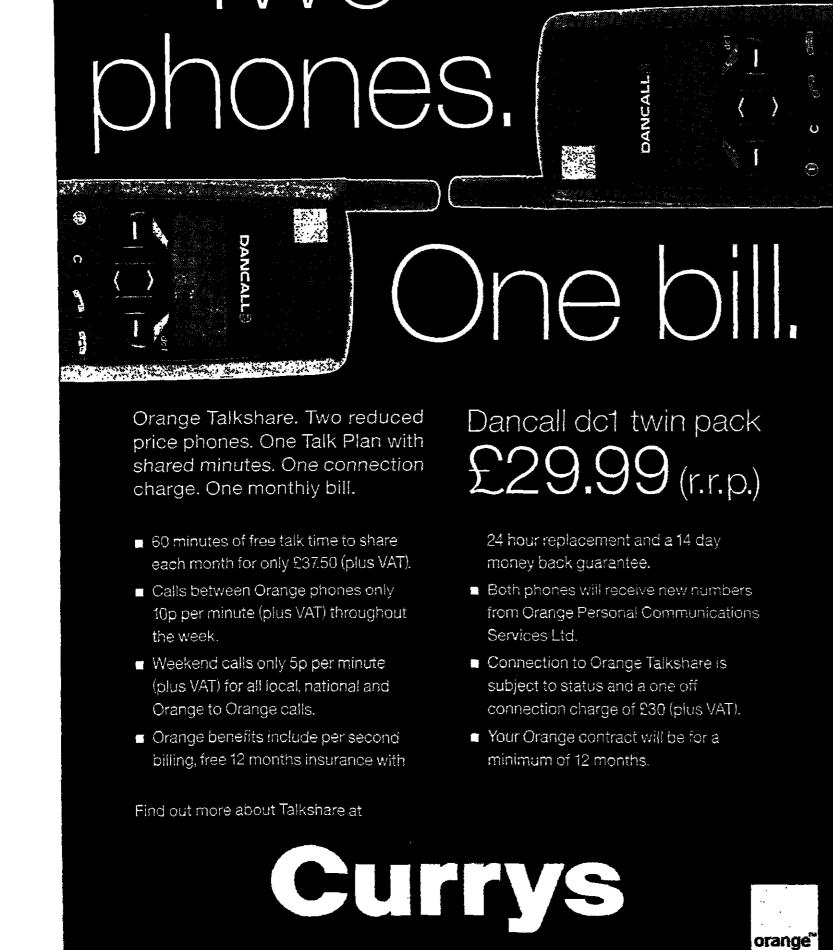
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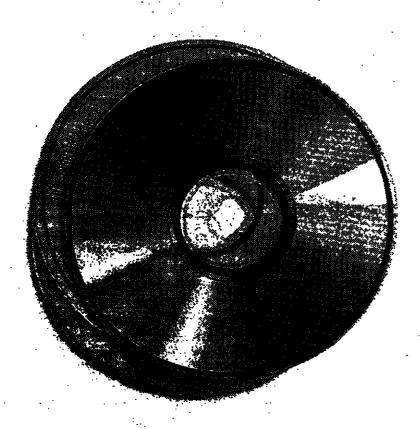
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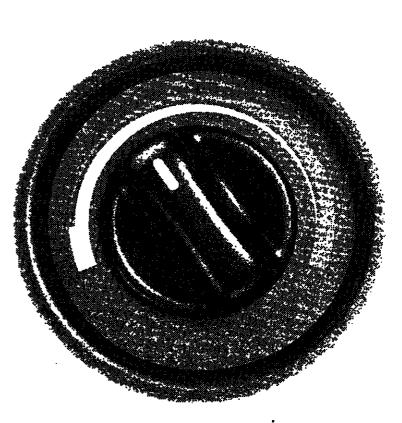
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£500m Library is a monument to folly, MPs tell Bottomley

By Valerie Elliott, whitehall editor

THE new British Library is a nodel to the nation - on how iot to manage a major huildng project. MPs said yesterlay. They attacked the Vational Heritage Department for "a dismal story of accompetence and wasted taxpayers' money"

Costs for the library, next to St Pancras station, London, nave soured from £450 million o more than £511 million. The Commons Public Accounts Committee said this was made worse because the plans had neen scaled down.

The committee called on the department to ensure that there were no more cost increases or delays. It criticised the department for not fixing a budget and for failing to take swift and decisive action

over technical problems. The MPs told the Treasury to ensure that other government departments and agenicies learnt the lessons of the ·fiasco. One accounting officer should take control of a project and its budget, reporting to

Parliament. The MPs' progress report on the library is a further criticism of Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, who is under attack over regulation of the National Lottery and failing to secure private sector cash to match lottery money for the Millennium Exhibition.

The committee, chaired by Labour's Robert Sheldon, says: The library is a major public building and is designed to serve the nation throughout the next century and beyond.

"Its construction should therefore have been planned, managed and executed with the utmost care achieving standards of excellence but without compromising value

for money." The committee had been told in 1990 that the cost would be £450 million but last summer the figure had escalated to F511.1 million. The department would not know the final figure until all accounts had been settled.

"We consider it unsatisfactory, given the size and dura-tion of this project, that there was no total cash budgets for many years and no firm budgets for the works packages until 1995." the MPs say.
"We regard it as extraordinary that the department entered into contracts without setting

a budgetary limit for each of them." This left the depart-ment vulnerable to claims on its contingency funds, which the MPs were disturbed to find had sometimes gone into

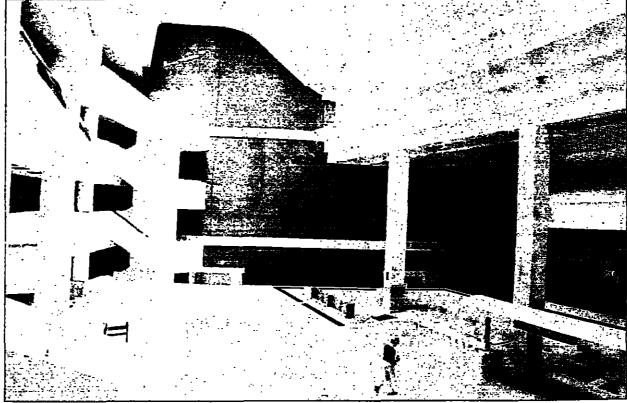
They were particularly anxious that the department had not entered into supplementary agreements with key contractors until delays and disruption had cost £92 million. The committee was stag-gered by the £122 million paid in professional fees, especially as companies had been given no incentive to minimise costs or to keep to a speedy

The report highlights the role of Laing Management in overseeing the work and the department's view that the firm "did not achieve what they were paid to do". Senior officials considered legal action against the company but were advised by lawyers that they had no grounds. In the end the company was paid £38 million and its contract extended.

MPs blamed earlier differences between the Depart-ment and the British Library management for damaging

the project and the taxpayer.

A Heritage Department spokesman said yesterday that it was confident the library would be completed on time and within budget. The first books and staff would be moved in within ten days and the department believed the library would offer fantastic new services" to readers.



The new British Library's cost has risen from a 1990 forecast of £450 million. Delays alone ran up £92 milllion

Call to avoid British Museum charge

BY DALYA ALBERGE ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THREE of the art world's most eminent

figures yesterday attacked the Government for forcing the British Museum to consider introducing entrance charges to make ends meet.

Sir Hugh Leggatt, Sir Denis Mahon and Sir Robert Sainsbury argued that millions would be unable to afford to visit it. They called on the Treasury to increase its funding and for lottery rules to be changed to cover existing buildings rather than only new ones.

Sir Hugh, a former member of the

Museums and Galleries Commission, said: "One of the tragedies is that the Government does not appreciate that it is the very people who are hard up who will most suffer. Foreign visitors will be able to afford to pay."

He described the proposals under

consideration by the museum trustees as "philistine and thoroughly uncivilised". Charges are expected to reduce the annual 6.5 million visitors drastically. Sir Denis, a leading scholar, said: "On every occasion the Government tries to get out of its responsibilities." Although the trustees are appointed by the Prime Minister, John Major's office referred

Hugh said: "If the Prime Minister takes such a lackadaisical attitude, he should give up his prerogative of appointing trustees forthwith. It is ironic that the BM, founded on lottery money, should now fall in granting free admission to the very people who pour in money to the

National Lottery."
In a letter to The Times. Sir Robert, a former chairman of the Tate Gallery Trustees, writes: "The museum is a great educational resource and surely this role must be maintained and encouraged."

BBC seeks fans' help in tracing **lost Archers**

By CAROL MIDGLEY

FANS of The Archers are being asked to help to trace vintage episodes. The programmes span 38 years, from grammes span so years, from Jennifer Aldridge's illegiti-mate pregnancy to the early days of Sid and Polly Perks's

courtship. Dedicated listeners who may have tape recorded some of the episodes are being urged to come forward to help the BBC to compile Vintage Archers 3 — The Lost Archers. At present, the corporation is short of material.

From 1951 to 1989 only episodes considered to be of vital importance were stored in the BBC archives and the rest were thrown away. Although taping broadcasts used to be illegal, the BBC has declared an amnesty. Vanessa Whitburn, the editor, said: Listeners with a home library

of The Archers need not lear, Storylines featuring the eardays of the Grundys, Nigel Pargetter's affair with Shula Archer, or the death of Jethro Larkin are among those being

sought by the BBC.
A spokesman said: "Ru mour has it that there are people who are such enthus iasts that they have 20 or 36 years' worth of episodes sitting in their lofts. We would love to

hear from them." should contact The Archers Archive Appeal, BBC Pebbia Mill, Birmingham, 85 7QQ

Channel 4 sell-off could raise up to £3bn

By CAROL MIDGLEY

THE privatisation of Channel 4 could raise £2 billion without the station losing its distinctive programming remit, a new study says.

The independent European Media Forum, whose director, Damian Green, was a media adviser in John Major's policy unit, says research shows that selling the channel would be financially viable and would reduce state ownership of the media. Channel 4's future is expected to be decided next week during the Budget

Mr Green said the study's figures had been shown to officials in Whitehall for the past month or so". If Channel lost its remit to provide minority programmes, its sale could raise up to £3 billion, the report says. The programme mix had changed radically with an "absolute" decline in multicultural programmes and documentaries.

"Channel 4's commercial success has established beyond doubt that profits and a distinctive programming re-mit can walk hand in hand." the study says. Michael Grade, Channel 4's chief executive, has promised to fight a sale. He believes privatisation would ruin the remit that has

made the channel a success.

Mr Green said: "Next week's Budget should decide the future of Channel 4 once and for all, as it is in no one's interest to leave the channel uncertain whether its future lies in the public or private

NEWS IN BRIEF **Ex-football** star fined over cocaine

Frank McAvennie, 36, a former Scotland international footballer, was yesterday fined £750 by Paisley Sheriff Court for possessing cocaine. He and Peter McClellan, 26. from Milton, Glasgow, were found to have the drug when stopped at Glasgow Airport soon after arriving on a London flight on April 19. Me-Clellan was also fined £750.

Judgment later

Judgment in the case of the former footballer Brian McCord, 28, who is suing John Cornforth and Swansea City Football Club for injuries from a tackle in 1993, was reserved in the High Court.

Royal visitor

Diana, Princess of Wales paid a 30-minute visit to her friend Jemima Khan and her newborn baby at Portland Hospital. London. The boy, who has heen named Sulaiman Isa. was born on Sunday.

Launch felled

Bad weather has impeded National Tree Week whose organisers aim to plant more than a million trees. Snow forced the postponement of the planting of 20,000 trees in the West Midlands.

Bird 999 call

A Durham ambulance crew revived a tawny owl with oxygen after it hit their windscreen and was knocked unconscious. The bird was kept under observation and set free the next day.



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Hutus trek north to Goma as Zaire rebels begin push

By SAM KILEY, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

EASTERN ZAIRE descended further into chaos yesterday as a United Nations agency said 100,000 Rwandan Hutu refues were moving north from Bukavu to Goma, while rebels continued their advance towards Kisangani.

Michelle Quintaglie, of the UN World Food Programme, said that there were "strong indications of a large movement of people from the Bukavu area heading north towards Goma. We believe there could be 100,000".

The northward trek of the refugees would add an extra 70 miles to their journey home. A shorter route for them would have been to head eastwards and cross into Rwanda at Cyangugu, a

stone's throw from Bukavu. Michelle Quintaglie said the decision to head north was "a mystery". The answer may be that the Hutus are not heading for Rwanda via Goma but for Masisi, deeper into Zaire, where another 100,000 are thought to have fled when their camp at Mugunga was cleared by eastern Zaire's Tutsi Banyamulenge rebels

last week. Extremist Hutu leaders. who maintain an iron grip on their kinsmen with a mixture of propaganda and terror, had

prepared the ground for establishing a Hutu homeland in Masisi earlier this year when they killed thousands of Zai-

rean Tutsis living there.
The refugees' trek north may depend on the mercy of eastern Zaire's rebels whose objective is to annihilate the Hutu militia, the Interahamwe, and depose President Mobutu of Zaire. The Hutu refugees will need protection because their route along the western edge of Lake Kivu is controlled by the Mai Mai, a mystical william which along the second controlled by the Mai Mai, a mystical militia which, although in alliance with the Banyamulenge, has a record of slaughtering Rwandans,

whether Hutu or Tutsi. Aid officials are concerned that another 500,000 refugees remain missing in South Kivu province and relief agencies are being denied access to Bukavu by the rebels.

Laurent Kabilla, the leader of the rebels, who is viewed as a front-man for the Tutsidominated Rwandan Government, has insisted that his aim is to depose President Mobutu. He said the Hutu refugees and the Internhamme in their midst were "merely a block to our advance".

But the success of his advance will depend on whether Rwanda and his allies in

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Uganda decide to continue to support his uprising. It is not clear whether the Banyamulenge's military ambitions in Zaire extend beyond destroying militias that have threatened their security.

International enthusiasm for a military intervention in eastern Zaire has waned since the rebels cleared Mugunga camp, near Goma, with few casualties. The rout of the Interahamwe there drove 700,000 Hutu refugees back to Rwanda last week. With the emergence of ever more complex rebel groups in eastern Zaire and little information about how, if at all, foreign soldiers would be able to help the refugees, the prospect of a military intervention looked increasingly dim yesterday.

The Banyamulenge fear that a humanitarian intervention would slow their advance and allow the refugees to reestablish permanent camps. Some aid groups support their stance. Mike McDonagh, director of Concern International, said: "So long as there are no indications of widespread hunger or disease, the rebels should be left to get on with clearing out the camps in their own way. They would be doing both us and the refugees a favour."



Hutu children, separated from their families during the exodus from Zaire, wait at a transit station in Gisenyi, near the Rwanda border

RAF camera team prepares to hunt for refugees

By Michael Evans DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

AN RAF Canberra supported by three Hercules aircraft, packed with photo reconnaissance experts and photographic analysts, is expected to begin operating over Zaire today in the hunt for hundreds of thousands of missing

The Canberra PR9 reconnaissance aircraft arrived in Akrotiri, Cyprus, yesterday after taking off from RAF Marham in Norfolk. The 50-man team sent with the Canberra and three Hercules were waiting last night for diplomatic clearance from the Zairean

The Hercules aircraft, which are

equipped with mobile photographic "cabins", have been sent with the Canberra to ensure that the "wet films" taken by one of the RAF's oldest jets can be developed, enhanced and analysed "in theatre".

The RAF team, which is expected to stay in the region for more than a week, will relay their findings back to the Ministry of Defence before return-

ing to Britain. With indications yesterday that up to 100,000 refugees were on the move from the Bukavu area of Zaire, the Canberra will be in a unique position to photograph the exodus and to make calculations of the numbers still remaining in the wooded hills southwest of Lake Kivu. Michael Portillo,

and Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, in the Commons, both made it clear that Britain intended to wait for the refugee picture to be clear before deciding whether to send British troops into the area.

Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, said yesterday that several countries which had wanted to take part in a military mission to eastern Zaire were now having second thoughts.

The date for a meeting of military leaders from nations who had offered troops was also put back. They are now due to meet tomorrow in Stuttgart. Canada said yesterday that plans for an international rescue mission

Lieutenant-General Maurice Baril, the Canadian officer earmarked to command the multinational force, was said to be reassessing any changes of the mission being discussed by the United Nations and conducting further preliminary planning.

Vice-President Paul Kagame of Rwanda repeated his Government's opposition to an international force in Central Africa.

The British Overseas Development Administration announced a further £10 million for Rwanda and the Great Lakes region, bringing the total British financial aid to Rwanda and its refugees to more than £18 million this

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Portillo proposes charter with Russia Defence Secretary, said yesterday that Nato and Russia would probably sign a charter next year to define their new post-Cold War relationship. During his first visit to

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understanding between Russia and Nato." Mr Portillo said. "This will probably re-

Moscow, Mr Portillo saw at

first hand the anger almost all

the Russian political establish-

ment feels at the prospect of

the expansion of Nato, its

former enemy, into Eastern

Europe. He was given a cool

reception when he gave a speech to the massed ranks of

generals of the General Staff

Academy, The Russian mili-

tary are not used to the idea of ı civilian defence minister.

While Mr Portillo stuck to

the view that Nato should

expand, he also conceded that

Russia should be bound more

firmly into future Russian

security arrangements by the

signing of a formal document.

have spoken to today are

anxious to embark on a new

I sense that all the people I

MICHAEL PORTILLO, the sult in the signing of some sort of charter because there are practical things on which we need to work together."

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

The aim will be to avert clashes over thorny issues. such as the revising of the outdated Conventional Forces in Europe agreement, which dates back to 1990. Mr Portillo pre-empted another such question when he reassured the Russians that there was little chance of nuclear wearons being stationed in new Nato member countries, such as Poland and the Czech

Although he did not put a date on the signing of the new charter. Mr Portillo said the decision on the admission of new members to Nato would take place at a summit to be held no later than next July.

He added that Rodionov, the Russian Defence Minister, had given him a draft agreement on future military co-operation between Britain and Russia which he would take away for further consideration.

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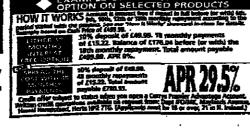
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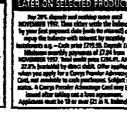
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Clinton gambles on Far Eastern trade taming the tyranny of Peking

PRESIDENT CLINTON'S tour of Asia, just weeks after his reelection, is a reminder of the prominence he wants to give the region in his second term.

However, in courting Asian countries, particularly China, he has been attacked for putting short-term trading interests ahead of long-standing principles of foreign policy. The biggest row awaiting Mr Clinton back in Washington - the allegation that his campaign illegally accepted Asian funds — is an appropriate symbol of the risks he faces in taking money from new-found

Mr Clinton is personally fasci-

In a warning to Europe, President Clinton is signalling that America must look East as much as West, Bronwen Maddox writes

Arkansas in 1985, keen for his home state to shake off its hillbilly image, he tried to attract Asian investment by opening state offices in Tokyo and Taipei. In 1994, after Republicans seized control of Congress, Mr Clinton turned to Asian-Americans as a new source of votes and campaign funds. On the campaign trail this year, he used Asian communities' reputation for hard work, family values and reverence for education to

illustrate his favourite metaphor of a "bridge to the 21st century". In contrast, Mr Clinton often seems to see in Europe an uncomfortable reminder of America's least tractable problems: longterm unemployment, ageing pop-ulations and budget deficits.

In a warning to Europe of where America's special relationships are likely to lie in the next century. Mr Clinton said yesterday: "America must look to the

From America's point of view, the Apec summit of Pacific Rim trading partners, now assembling in the Philippines, is dominated by Mr Clinton's private meeting on Saturday with his Chinese counterpart, Jiang Zemin. In the past year, Mr Clinton has thrown himself fully behind the argument that economic ties with the West will tame China. He now wants to glue together a relationship that seemed in serious danger of fracture.

Two years ago, the United States formally abandoned its attempt to use trade as a lever to promote Chinese respect for human rights. Even so, the relation-

downward spiral, after allega-tions that the Chinese sold nuclear technology to Pakistan, China's military manoeuvres in the Taiwan Straits ahead of the Nationalist island's elections, and China's unrestrained pirating of American software, music, videos and CDs. This week, however, Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, said he would raise the subject of human rights on Saturday but that "no single issue" should dominate the talks. The message was clear: the Clinton Administration would now pursue a pragmatic path towards common ground. The main reason for the change is the Adminis

tration's determination to make a dent in China's trade surplus with the US, which reached \$35 billion in 1995. The influx of goods is visible throughout American shopping malls, where a vast range of household equipment bears the label "Made in Shanghair"

But the new approach has risks. For businesses, the danger is that the legal framework of ownership remains filmsy and the problem of piracy stays unresolved. American industry officials put the annual cost to US businesses at between \$2 billion and \$3 billion. For President Clinton, the polit-

and that by the time the Peking leadership changes, the commercial ties between the two countries will be so extensive that China ical risk of playing down the human rights issues is also con-

siderable. One European diplomat suggests privately that the Administration believes the questions do not currently have much resonance in America: "Whatever horrible things go on in China, unlike Rwanda or Zaire, they are not on Cable News Network every night." But a potentially powerful alliance of liberals and conservatives in Congress is vigorously opposed to Mr Clinton's new opposed to MI Clinton's new warmth towards Peking Mr Clinton's gamble is that trade will undermine tyranny,

President warns China against 'bullying'

AT THE start of his two-week tour of Asia and Australia. President Clinton yesterday warned China against international bullying and pledged that the Americans were in the Pacific to stay.

In his first foreign policy speech since his re-election. President Clinton cautioned the Chinese against expansionism while assuring them Washington had no policy of anti-China containment.

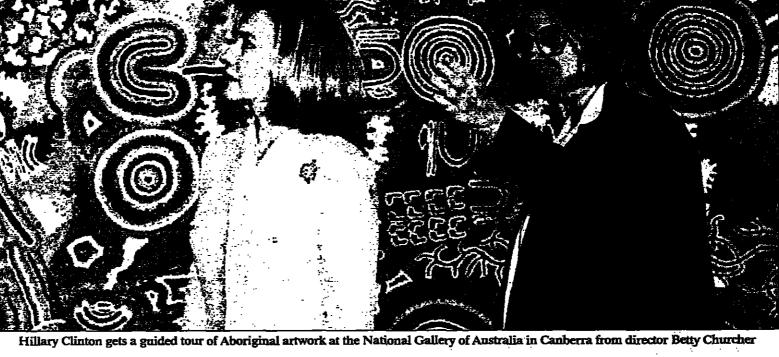
Peking has repeatedly alleged that the US. Australia, and Japan are conspiring to encircle China. But Mr Clinton said: "The United States has no interest in containing

Mr Clinton asked the Australian parliament in Canberra: "How will the Chinese define their greatness in the 21st century? In terms of the incredible potential of their people to learn, to produce, to succeed — or to dominate their

Mr Clinton's warning to China came as Warren Christopher, his Secretary of State, ent into talks with President Jiang Zemin, Li Peng, the Prime Minister, and Qian Oichen, the Foreign Minister, Sino-American relations. If mishandled then our bilateral relationship will be subject to disruptions." He specified that China would feel the relationship was satisfactory when Washington ceased arms sales

The Foreign Minister said that China did not engage in nuclear proliferation or the sale of missiles, although Mr Christopher had said before his talks began that he would urge Peking to end its nuclear co-operation with Iran. Wil-liam Triplett, an authority on Washington weapons sales. said last night: "The Chinese are secretly building a complete factory in Pakistan for the manufacture of nuclearcapable ballistic missiles."

In Peking Mr Christopher, who has said he wants to resign before the beginning of wholly reassuring. He made it plain when he arrived on Tuesday that the recent imprisonment of Wang Dan. the Tiananmen Square pro-de-mocracy leader, for 11 years would not impede his meetings with President Jiang and



Mr Li. "I expect I'll be discussing human rights and the rule of law issues at all my meetings," Mr Christopher said. "I'd emphasise the importance of the overall relationship, the fact that we have to have a steady and comprehensive approach to the relationship. that's not rooted in a single

On the plane bound for Peking, Nicholas Burns, the State Department spokesman, said that Mr Christopher wanted to "leave his successor a relationship that's balanced

The result of the new policy has been the smashing of virtually the entire Chinese dissident movement, and little American action when Peking intelligence agencies, this year alone, as selling strategic mis-

siles, nuclear technology and a missile factory to Pakistan, a poison-gas factory to Iran and missile parts to Syria.

However, although the

problems of arms sales and intellectual property remain, as does Washington's commitment to Taiwan, to which Americans sent two aircraft carriers last spring when the island was menaced by Chinese missiles and invasion manoeuvres, Al Gore, the Vice-President, may visit Peking before the end of this

say that after the Clinton-Jiang meeting on November 24 at the Manila summit of the Asia Pacific Economic Forum. the American President may announce an exchange of presidential visits early next

US leader's toast to the Queen angers Australian republicans

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

PRESIDENT Clinton found himself embroiled in Australia's republican debate yesterday after toasting the Queen at an official lunch in John Howard, the Austra-

toast to the health of Mr Clinton and the President proposed a toast to "Her the Oueen

the Australian Republican Movement, Malcolm Turn-

Australia "just a little bit less of a nation". He said the President's toast underlined the falsity of monarchists who said the head of state was the Governor-General.

He doesn't toast the Governor-General, he toasts the just a little bit less of a Oueen — the truth is he

"There you have John Howard proposing the toast to the head of state of America, who's an American citizen, chosen by Americans, then Clinton stands up and pro-

knows very well, but whom he land," he said.

You have to wonder whether, in the eyes of Bill Clinton. Australia wasn't being seen at that moment as nation."

newed free trade push in the Asia-Pacific region. Today he will fly to the Queensland resort of Port Donalas where the President will take a two-

Baywatch beauty sues for divorce

PROM GOLES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

PAMELA ANDERSON, who played the shapely lifeguard CJ Parker in the popular television series. Baywatch, is

suing for divorce.

Anderson dismayed her parents and fans by marrying Tommy Lee, a rock drummer, after a four-day courtship on a Mexican beach last year. Twenty-one months later, she has filed for divorce and custody of their five-month-old son, saying the pair have "irreconcilable differences".

The sudden split has surprised Baywatch fans. Despite rumours of drug-taking and frequent rows, the couple have been inseparable since their marriage. Mr Lee, famous for his extensive tattoos and for dropping his trousers on stage with his group, Motley Crue, often joined his wife on

Baywatch locations. The cause of the split is unknown, but sources of stress in the relationship include a lawsuit filed against Lee last month by a photographer whose pelvis was broken . . . when the drummer threw him 🥣 to the ground while being filmed leaving a Sunset Strip

club in Hollywood. are also locked in a legal battle 🚐 with Bob Guccione, the publisher of Penthouse, who plans to publish photographs he has obtained of them having sex in

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Pekin Republicans put faith in repackaged Gingrich

A MORE GENTLE and conciliatory Newt Gingrich yesterday gained unanimous support for his re-election as America's first two-term House Speaker since the 1920s from a Republican Party which views the once firebrand Georgia congressman as one of its best leaders for the new millennium.

Accepting the nomination after a closed party caucus on Capitol Hill, Mr Gingrich described the approval as bittersweet. His stepfather, Robert Gingrich, had died the previous night after a battle with cancer.

In many ways his com-ments also reflected Mr Gingrich's own position in Congress, where some Republicans still view his unpopularity among the electorate as a liability for the next midterm elections in 1998.

Now repackaged as a bipartisan politician eager to do business with the White House, however, he has managed to fend off attempts by a group of former loyalists to make him stand down in the



Gingrich: new image as bipartisan politician

face of ethics charges. He is still seen as the architect of a revolution which forced Presi-dent Clinton's steady march to the right and resulted in the White House adoption of a conservative agenda ranging from tax cuts to welfare.

The conservative theorist and author of the Contract with America, who two years ago swept the Republicans to overall victory in Congress for the first time in 40 years, is . now portrayed as a lukewarm shadow of his former self.

حكامن الاحل

Once depicted by Time magazine as a Dickensian figure swiping Tiny Tim's crutch. the Gingrich stereotype has undergone a progressive facelift since the Republican convention in August. Shown as a caring animal lover and family man, his smiling face has been broadcast nightly on the nation's television screens beneath a picture of the US Capitol bearing the slogan, "Under New Management".

"He needs to be patient, less strident and focus on his vision for America and his strategy for doing it, and I think he's doing that," said Chris Shays, the moderate Connecticut Republican who had considered breaking ranks with Mr Gingrich. "I'd like people to know Newt as I know him, as a true visionary. a dedicated and patriotic pub-

lic servant." Analysts believe the down ward spiral in popularity for Mr Gingrich, which left him vilified in the polls by Demo-

his standing among the electorate, began during the gov-

Described as a 'cry baby' for complaining that President Clinton had snubbed him on board Air Force One while flying to the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin, the assassinated Israeli Prime Minister, Mr Gingrich was never able to recover his previous stature.

The Speaker's office was flooded with complaints that his comments had trivialised the overall Republican message during the critical budget talks with the White House and given Mr Clinton an easy target for his campaign. The Republican House cau-

cus, which also re-elected Dick Armey as majority leader and Tom DeLay as majority whip yesterday, is expected to devolve more power from the Speaker to committee chairmen in an interim effort to keep Mr Gingrich out of the spotlight. The only question that remains is whether, as some suspect, he may return with a vengeance to run for the presidency in 2000.



Marshall Wais recounts his kidnap ordeal outside his San Francisco home

Magnate freed for \$500,000 ransom

San Francisco: Blindfolded. handcuffed and held at gunpoint in a van for nearly eight hours, Marshall Wais, a steel magnate, got a goodwill ges-ture from his kidnappers as they set him free. The abductors, who had just collected a \$500,000 (£300,000) ransom. gave him \$20 for a cab fare

Moments after he walked free, police rammed the getaway van and arrested two men, ending a day-long or-deal on Tuesday for the 79vear-old businessman, a San Francisco philanthropist.

Mr Wais said his kidnappers did not mince words as they drove around San Francisco, stopping to call from pay phones. They said if there were any police around, that would be the end of me.

The drama began when two men barged into his \$3 million home as his maid opened the door to take out the rubbish. They tied her up and ordered him out of bed. But his stepson managed to sneak out and alert police. The suspects were unaware that police were on to them. (AP)

King family sues CBS over video of 'dream' speech

FROM QUENTIN LETTS

THE widow and family of Martin Luther King are suing an American television news station for using extracts of the US civil rights leader's most celebrated speech.

CBS News is selling a boxed videotape set of history programmes which carries long bursts of King's 1963 "I have a dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial Washington D.C. Three weeks after making the speech, King registered his copyright to the words. Ownership of that speech and others which King career have helped to keep his family in financial security since his death.

The television company is expected to argue that its use orise 25 per cent of the videotape, was justified on grounds of public interest and because the film was shot by CBS news cameras which were covering the event in 1963. A CBS executive, Andrew Heyward, claimed that the use of the historic footage was protected under the US First Amendment - which guarantees freedom of speech and by its own copyright on

the film. When he registered his



ownership. King listed not only his draft of the speech but also a later, edited version and an audiotane which recorded the distinctive, morroful cardences of his oratory. His delivery turned "I have a dream" into arguably the best-known phrase in America. The family, led by Mrs Coretta King, has engaged a prominent Atlanta lawyer, Joe Beck, to represent them. A friend of the family said they were "determined to protect

their inheritance". In 1964 King won the Nobel peace prize for his efforts to improve the lot of America's blacks. He was assassinated in 1968 by a white man in

King his "dream" is copyrighted

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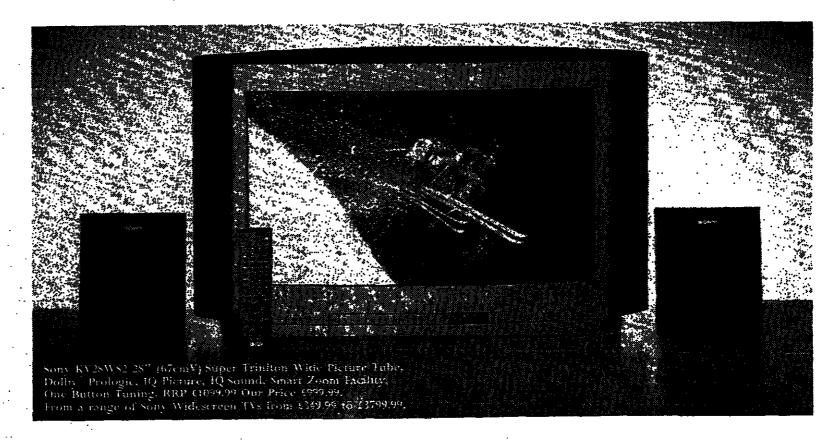
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Tasmania killer is 'simple but not criminally insane'

WHAT prompted mass murderer Martin Bryant to kill 35 people in last April's Port Arthur massacre will almost certainly remain a mystery.

After two days of evidence Tasmania's Supreme Court was told yesterday that the 29year-old gunman was not criminally insane, but simple. He had a mental age of ten and possibly suffered from a rare personality disorder known as Asperger's syndrome, which affects about 0.3 per cent of the population.

But he was not mad and. according to John Avery, his lawyer, he was merely a person of very limited intellectual capacity". The defence barrister said he had nothing to say in Bryant's mitigation, other than to point out he had an IQ of 66. Ninety per cent of 11-year-olds would score better

than Bryant, he said. Mr Avery said that Bryant accepted that he should spend the rest of his life in jail. Martin Bryant accepts that in all probability he will never be released from prison and will die there and he also accepts that that would be a not inappropriate sentence," he

murderer, Martin Bryant, is

sane, as has been claimed in

court, that means he was

aware when he committed his

murders that his actions were

It has been suggested in his defence that he could be

suffering from Asperger's

syndrome. This is a strange

and rare condition which

some authorities think is asso-

ciated with autism and, as

with autism, there is often

evidence that there may have

been minimal brain damage

syndrome may have limited

but obsessive interests. He

may, for instance, know all

there is to be known about

orchids or medieval armour.

but take little notice of any-

thing else, and may have a

low IQ. People with Asper-

ger's are emotionally very

detached, and their ability to

at, or before, birth.

uniawfui.

shown a videotape of a police interview with Bryant recorded soon after last April's massacre.

In it he laughed and rambled his way through 90 minutes of questioning by "I shouldn't be here," he told

officers in his prison cell. "I wish I had my ARI5 gun, then I could get out of here," he The court heard that the

defendant had told a psychiatrist that guns gave him power. "I could just go bang, bang, bang," he said. Bryant's high-pitched voice occasionally burst into a snig-

ger on the tape as he strayed from the subject to talk about surfing and his father. "Do you remember what

happened on the day of the killings?", he was asked.
"No, no, I don't," he replied. Asked about the semi-auto-

matic weapon he used to kill most of his victims, Bryant described it as a "sweet little gun". He had paid £2,500 for it and had not been asked to show a firearm licence, which he did not possess anyway.

Bryant told police he regularly went shooting in the Port Arthur area, often using tin

Rare mental condition can

bring on dangerous rages

form normal social relation-

ships is severely reduced.

Their behaviour is often

The standard stage portray-

al of the mad professor who is

unable to manage everyday

life, is obsessed by the trivia of

his chosen subject, and is

detached, anti-social and ec-

Asperger's in one of its milder

drome, like those with autism.

have a consuming desire to

make certain that there is no

change in the established

routine. A year or two ago, I

Asperger's who was reduced

People with Asperger syn-

centric, is an example

manifestations.

cans or home-made targets. However, he refused to use bottles, for fear the broken glass might hurt animals.

"It just made me feel good, letting a few rounds off," he The second day of Bryant's sentencing hearing in Hobart also heard about the deaths of three people he had taken hostage at the Seascape guest house, near the former penal colony. One of his victims was

handcuffed and another gagged before being shot

A third person who was forced at gunpoint into the back of a stolen BMW after Bryant's shooting rampage was also later found in the burnt-out guest house shot dead and with his wrists handcuffed behind his back. All three bodies were burnt beyond recognition, the court

The court was told that Bryant was incapable of showing remorse and revelled in the notoriety achieved by the massacre.

"It was just in my mind to go down and kill a lot of people,"

to uncontrollable and danger-

ous rages if the family dinner

table had been set in any way

different from its usual pat-

tern, or if any of his siblings or

even parents were fractionally

will have excluded untreated

schizophrenia and it seems

case. Both these conditions

must have been possible ex-

planations for the killer's ex-

traordinary action, and are

very much more common

than Asperger's syndrome.

The forensic psychiatrists

diagnoses in Bryant's

DR THOMAS

LEDICAL BRIEFING

late for a meal.

The judge will sentence

Taleban terror halts UN relief

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN

THE United Nations refuges agency has frozen all its programmes in Kabul, the Afghan capital, because of increasing security concern for its local staff, many of whom have been detained by the Taleban administration.

A spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in Islamabad, the Paki stan capital, said it had become increasingly difficult for the agency to operate in Kabul as half of its 22 local staff members had disappeared and others were being harassed.

"We simply cannot function in this situation." Rupert Colville, the Islamabad-based UNHCR representative said. The decision to suspend the programme has come with the arrival of the harsh winter. "It has been a very difficult decision but we don't have any choice." he said.

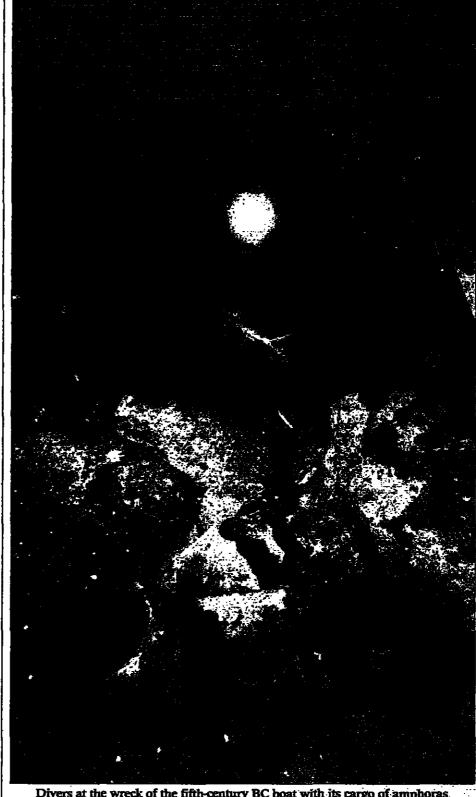
The UNHCR has been involved in more than a dozen projects, including distribution of construction materials. quilts and food to the vulnerable, mostly widows, in the war-devastated city. The agency has 40 members of staff in the capital of whom 22 are Afghans. The UN agency has faced serious problems since the Islamic movement swept Kabul in September.

Last month Taleban militia arrested one of the agency's drivers when he went to the market to buy medicines. His whereabouts are not known. Three other local staff members were arrested on November 12 as they left the office. Despite efforts by the agency, the Taleban administration has not released them.

The worst incident of har assment occurred last week when the house of an international member of the agency was ransacked by armed Tale-ban fighters. The attackers occupied the house for five hours and threatened him before leaving in the morning.

The other local staff members, including women, are too frightened to come to work. "At least seven women staffers have been forcibly Taleban authorities," Mr Colville said. "We cannot run our programmes with half of our local staff missing and others living in constant fear."

He said that the agency would be prepared to resume its operation only after Taleban guaranteed the safety STUTTAFORD



Divers at the wreck of the fifth-century BC boat with its cargo of amphoras

'Bermuda Triangle' of ancient wrecks puzzles Aegean divers

FROM ANDREW FINKEL

MARINE archaeologists responsible for the discovery of the world's oldest known shipwreck, the Bronze Age boat at Uluburun, have revealed another remarkable

find off the coast of Turkey. Divers, acting on a spongediver's tip and searching outside their normal survey area, located what appears to be a mini "Bermuda Triangle" of seven sunken vessels, including the only known boat from

the fifth century BC.
The latest find was identified through a cargo of amphoras containing resin lying on the seabed which had been loaded 2,500 years ago on the vessel. The rest of the cargo is preserved along with the re-mains of the hull buried

under a bank of sand. Preliminary analysis of the day amphoras suggests that the boat is, after the Uluburun site, the second oldest known shipwreck in the region, dating from the beginning of the Classical Greek age. The ves-sel may have foundered while trading between the island of Samos and the city of Teos. or



what is now Sigacik on Turkey's Aegean coast, just south of the Cesme peninsula.

That this ancient ship found its way to the same watery grave is puzzling staff of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology at Texas A. and M. University, who discovered the vessels. The six other boats, the latest being an Ottoman steamer called the Inayet sunk in 1902, are all within a few hundred yards of one another. Yet the spot is not known to be dangerous. It is precisely for this reason that no one bothered for so long to look for wrecks there, according to Tufan Turanli, who headed the survey team that He said he was acting on a

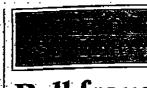
made the discovery.

tip-off from a sponge diver who spoke of finding an amphora nearby. Many of the other boats, including a Roman ship and a Byzantine vessel carrying millstones, would normally inspire academic interest in their own right. For the moment, however, all has been eclipsed by the excitement of the discovery of the Greek ship.

The hull, about 49ft long, is lying at a recoverable depth of around 130ft. Its examination, expected to begin next sumr, will fill important gaps in the history of seafaring and the evolution of shipbuilding. Examination of its contents will provide the most complete snapshot of commercial life and trading relations of this early period.

The Uluburun wreck was identified in 1982 simply from a few glass ingots on the seabed near the town of Kas. Its excavation is forcing historians to revise their knowledge of the late Bronze Age. Divers uncovered a treasure trove of goods from Africa to Afghanistan, including ebony and ivories and a gold scarab of Queen Nefertiti

of Egypt.



Poll fraud claimed in Zambia

Lusaka: A human rights alli-ance has accused President Chiluba's party of "rampant vote-buying" in yesterday's Zambian presidential and general elections (Jan Raath writes). With two thirds of the vote counted, Mr Chiluba's MMD was heading for a landslide. The alliance's claim strengthens the bid of Kenneth Kaunda, the former President. who was barred from contesting and intends to ask the Supreme Court to invalidate the poll. But the Electoral Commission said it was satisfied it was "free and fair".

Appeal to EU on beef closure

Brussels: The European Commission is to investigate a complaint by the Hard Rock Cafe that the closure of its Paris branch broke European Union law (Leyla Linton writes). French police shut the restaurant this month when they found minced beef which. they said had been illegally imported from Britain. But the Hard Rock Cafe says the meat came from Irish cattle, processed in England, and legally imported.

US reward for hostage clues

Islamabad: America ar nounced a substantial cash reward for verifiable information on the whereabouts of Dr. Donald Hutchings, a US citizen abducted in the Indian state of Kashmir about 16 months ago (Zahid Hussain writes). Dr Hutchings and two Britons, Keith Mandan and Paul Wells, have been held captive since July 4, 1995, by the Al Faran separatist group

Jordan lovers to die for murder

her lover bave been sentenced to death for killing the woman's husband with rat poison. the Jordan Times reported. It Mireeh, 60, because they believed he would never grant his 35-year-old wife a divorce. The couple married when she was 13 years old. (Reuter)

Tribute to death railway victims

Bangkok: Australia will build a museum in Thailand to commemorate the Allied forces who died building the Burma-Thailand "death railway during the Second World War, an embassy official said. The Thai Cabinet has endorsed the plan. (AFP)



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Rifkind blasts Israeli policy

DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN yesterday gave Israel a blunt warning that its friends were finding it increasingly difficult to support the Jewish state as long as the Government of Binyamin Netanyahu continued to build new settlements.

In unusually sharp re-marks, Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, told Yitzhak Mordechai, the Israeli Defence Minister, that his country's reputation was being damaged by its policy of

building new settlements. During a visit to Hebron two weeks ago. Mr Rifkind underlined Britain's view that all such settlements were illegal.

Mr Rifkind also criticised the lack of movement in negotiations on withdrawing Israeli troops from Hebron. And he gave Mr Mordechai a warning that the continuing closure of Israel's frontiers to Palestinian workers was leading to growing frustration in Gaza and the occupied territories. He said many Palestinians were losing faith in the peace process, and Israel

needed to distinguish between terrorists and those who were becoming sympathetic to terrorism out of frustration. Mr Rifkind criticised the

Israeli court which this week imposed only a fine of less than a penny on four soldiers found guilty of fatally shooting a Palestinian at a road block He said this gave an impres-sion that Israel put little value on the Palestinian life. Mr Mordechai, who is in

Britain on a private visit, will be having talks today with Michael Portillo, the Defence



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France to give teenagers five-day drill on how to become a model citizen

FROM ADAM SAGE

FRENCH teenagers — female as well as male — will have to go on five-day civic instruction courses under plans to replace national conscription.

Anyone who fails to take part in

the course will be unable to apply for a civil service job, enter higher next year. Details of the proposals education or obtain social security. were leaked All 18-year-olds will be told of yesterday.

their "rights and duties" as French ... With military service due to becitizens, given a medical check-up phased out on the orders of and receive career advice during

Brushing aside criticism that its critizen encounters" will turn into onscription.

Anyone who fails to take part in ination to press ahead with the were leaked to the French media

President Chirac early next century, senior politicians on both sides of the divide have said that an obligatory "rendez-vous" is necessary to preserve a sense of national cohesion. Some rightwingers have called for up to six months of civic instruction as the only way of preventing the breakdown of

But the Cabinet of Alain Juppe;

the Prime Minister, decided that this was too costly and too difficult to impose on a rebellious youth. Instead it opted for a minimum five-day course to be run by 1,000 civilians and up to 7,000 military personnel. The shorter the courses, the more they will be tolerated," a source in the Prime Minister's office said.

The 12 civic instruction centres to be set up across the country will be capable of housing up to 800 teenagers at a time. All teenagers on the courses will undergo a medical examination, an analysis of their performance at school and an assessment of their prospects in higher education or work. They will also be given details of France's institutions and defence force, and told how to be a better citizen. The Government says it plans to offer a deeper understanding of the rights and duties emanating from participation in the national com-

munity" but has yet to spell out what this will entail.

However, it is known that President Chirac wants to use the course to encourage 18-year-olds to undertake state-sponsored charity work before looking for a job or place at

A "citizen-mediator" will be on hand to prevent conflicts between the teenagers themselves, or between the tecangers and their instructors. The scheme should be

in operation for males by 1999 and will become obligatory for females from 2003. The proposals, designed to dampen criticism over the abolition of national service, are nonetheless certain to prove controversial. Opponents say five days is not long enough to be taken seriously by teenagers, who will be tempted to see the "rendez-vous citoyen" as a giant holiday camp.

Leading article, page 23

London connection puts Berlusconi back in the dock

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

SILVIO BERLUSCONI, the media tycoon and leader of the opposition Centre Right, goes on trial today in Milan on new and potentially damaging

corruption charges.

The evidence will be partly based on documents seized by the Serious Fraud Office from the London offices of his Fininvest business empire which allegedly reveal a complex secret network of offshore companies and Swiss bank

The charges of false accounting and illegal party for accounting, which he denies, are the most serious yet brought against the flamboyant former Prime Minister. On the other hand, the trial is likely to be adjourned the moment it begins, a reflection of the fact that the "Clean Hands" anti-corruption drive launched four years ago is in chaos and the Italian legal

system cannot cope.

Five thousand officials, politicians and businessmen have been investigated since the collapse of the Christian Democrats in 1992, and charges have been laid against 2,000 in what the press dubbed Tangentopoli (Bribesville). However, only 300 have actually been tried, and a mere handful have gone to jail, with the rest either acquitted or freed pending appeal.

Antonio Di Pietro, the magistrate who launched "Clean Hands" in Milan, last week resigned as a minister in the Centre Left Government of Romano Prodi because he has

alleged "irregularities". He claims that his most powerful victims, including Signor Berlusconi and his younger brother Paolo, are conducting

a vendetta against him. Paolo Berlusconi and Ce-sare Previti, the former Defence Minister in the shortlived 1994 Berlusconi administration, are on trial intermittently — in Brescia for allegedly blackmalling Signor Di Pietro into resigning as a magistrate two years ago.

In January this year, Signor Berlusconi went on trial for alleged complicity in the bribery of tax inspectors auditing his media and advertising subsidiaries. Because of the Byzantine

complexities of the legal system, and the sheer workload of the anti-corruption magistrates, this first trial shows no sign of reaching a conclusion. Signor Berlusconi has used his showbusiness skills and



Berluscon: first trial

control of the media to capitalise on popular discontent over the Prodi Government's attempts to impose a 'Euro tax" to bring Italy into line with the Maastricht single currency criteria.

However, Signor Berlusconi's chances of re-election have been dented by continuing corruption charges. Lawyers say the fact that he tried for six months to prevent the London documents reaching the Milan court shows he realises how damaging the latest trial could be. The Fininvest papers were

seized in a raid in April carried out at the request of Italian magistrates - on the Regent Street offices of Edsaco, Signor Berlusconi's London agents, and the Banca Commerciale Italiana. Lawyers say the documents

show Fininvest paid \$6.5 million into a Swiss bank account allegedly controlled by Bettino Craxi, Prime Minister in the 1980s, in return for "favour-able" rulings by the Craxi Government relating to Signor Berlusconi's labyrinthine ousiness interests.

Signor Craxi was convicted of corruption in 1994 and fled to Tunisia to escape a 20-year prison sentence. This week he was jailed for a further five and a half years in absentia. Lawyers say that the

London papers go beyond the Craxi connection and reveal a much wider network of offshore companies and Swiss bank accounts used by Fininvest for alleged "false



Three diebard supporters of General Franco, the Spanish dictator, give the Fascist salute at his tomb in the Valley of the Fallen, 18 miles northwest of Madrid. They

Fascist homage to Franco

old Fascists who assembled yesterday to pay homage to El Caudillo on the 21st anniversary of his death

The atmosphere was pregnant with the remembrance

Spain's last patriots." Later. the group, composed mainly traded abuse with left-wing protesters, "damned Reds" as they called them.

Drivers' gridlock forces hint of Paris offer

Paris: Traffic jams spread across France yesterday as lorry drivers set up more roadblocks in support of their campaign for better pay and a shorter working week (Adam Sage writes).

On the third day of the strike some motorways, including the A6 that links Paris and Lyons, were shut down as Bordeaux, where Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, is Mayor, faced gridlock as all access routes were closed.

Police said there were miles of jams around most provincial cities and advised travellers to stay at home or take the train. The hauliers want payment for all the hours spent away from home and not just work a maximum of 48 hours a week and to retire at 55.

Owners of road haulage companies say they would like to meet the demands. but cannot do so because of high taxes -throwing an unwanted ball into the Government's court. Sources suggested the Government was prepared to

'Fighting' Yeltsin thanks Russians

FROM RICHARD BEESTON

FOR the first time in more than a month, President Yeltsin last night appeared on Russian television to tell the people he was in fighting mood and would soon be back

in control of the country. Wearing a fur hat and down jacket and holding on to the arm of his granddaughter Masha, he looked thin, frail and slightly dazed after his quintuple heart bypass operation two weeks ago. Nevertheless, as he walked through the grounds of the Central Clinical Hospital, accompanied by his wife, Naina, and daughter, Tatyana, he spoke clearly and appeared confident of making a full recovery, and thanked the people for their support

during the operation.
"I would not say that I am firmly back on my feet, but the doctors have done their business," he said. Doctors yesterday removed his stitches and he is expected to leave hospital today to recuperate at the Barvikha sanatorium outside

Mr Yeltsin has been trying to defuse the potentially explosive situation in neighbouring Belarus. President Lukashenko vowed yesterday to continue his struggle with the Minsk parliament over plans to hold a referendum on Sunday that would give him sweeping new

Although he had lengthy talks with Mr Yeltsin about the crisis in Belarus, he did not turn up to Russian-sponsored peace talks last night in Smo-lensk, saying he was too busy.

Leading article, page 23



THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS



Suzanne wants her own business, and now she's watched the video, she knows what to do.

Suzanne isn't just a good hairdresser, she's also got a very good business head on her shoulders. After seeing a friend op it alone, she decided it

So she asked Midland for one of their starter packs. The video included the general experiences of people who have recently thorough insight into just what's invol

Helpful as it was, it didn't solve her immediate problem - finding some original 1950s barber chairs, which according to Suzanne, are "all-the-rage"









Dr Thomas Stuttaford on the telltale signs of Parkinson's The problem with tattoos When stress can protect women



A killer's creeping advance

he placing of a stone in memory of Sir John Betjeman in Poets Corner. Westminster Abbey, has recently been celebrated by a service taken by the Dean. Lady Wilson of Rievaulx, the widow of the former Prime Minister, made a short speech. There were readings by Joanna Lumley and the actor Kenneth Cranham, and the author Patrick Leigh Fermor delivered an

address.
Sir John continued to inspire, amuse and

intrieue his admirers despite the slow advance of John's lack of facial expression, and a voice which was becoming increasingly soft and slow, both classic signs of the disease, might have detracted from some peo-ple's observations on life and times in general, and literature in particular. but in his case it seemed to give them an additional quality. Sir John was not alone

in his troubles. There are 100,000 people in Britain with the disease, and at 65, one in 100 of the population can expect to have some symptoms of it.

Contrary to popular belief. Parkinson's does not affect only the aged. One in 20 of those who develop it first show evidence of the disease before they

Parkinson's starts insidiously and thereafter the symptoms gradually worsen over many years. It is not uncommon for patients to have

the condition for 25 to 30 years. Movements become increasingly laboured and clumsy as the disease advances, the handwriting becomes ever smaller and more spidery, the person is slower to smile than they used to be and the face takes on an inscrutable

The loss of facial expression means that there is no immediate lightening of the face, and a ready smile, when an old friend is greeted. If a compliment is passed the person with Parkinson's disease does not respond.

These changes can make it appear that someone with Parkinson's is both arrogant and surly. The delayed response when taking part slow-witted, rather than merely slow-

Often the initial symptoms of the disease are

the consequences of ageing, and the diagnosis is delayed until the classic signs of rigidity of limb movements, the characteristic slow shake, and the curious walk of the sufferers, make it

> The television film about Jeremy Thorpe this week illustrated many of the signs and symptoms of Parkinson's disease. The stoop, the rapid shuffling gait, interspersed with pauses and coupled with a lack of armswinging which would drive a drill sergeant

crazy, together with the blank face, reduced blink rate and soft, indistinct voice were all classic features, but sad to see in a man who had once dominated the House of

Recently, American scientists claim to have isolated a gene which is responsible for some cases. It has been known for many years that in some people there is a genetic predisposition to develop the condition. One survey suggests that having a close relative with it made the chance of developing the trouble 15 times more likely. This is unduly pessimistic, but most experts agree that the risk is at least twice as great to those who have a family history.

Other factors also predispose to Parkinson's disease. And, strangely, an unhealthy urban lifestyle spent in smoke-filled rooms provide

Betjeman: classic symptoms

The disease is one of the few conditions which is less common to those who have smoked cigarettes for most of their lives and there is less chance of developing it if someone has lived in a city, rather than if they have enjoyed a rural

The water from the tap may taste unpleasant. but those who tolerate it are less likely to have the disease than those who have revelled in the sparkling waters from a rural well.

Conversely, there is some evidence that antioxidant vitamins A, C and E may slow its

Its treatment was revolutionised when it was discovered that Levodopa eased its symptoms. More recently, the value of Levodopa therapy Madopar, which inhibits the enzymes which break down Levodopa. These enzymes were able to neutralise Levodopa before it could exert dismissed by the patient, and their doctors, as its action on the brain.



Digitally challenged: Pamela Anderson, and, below left, her wedding ring tattoo



Taking out Pamela's tattoo

THE news that Pamela Anderson, star of Baywatch, plans a divorce after 21 months of marriage is likely to present an unusual prob- removing the "wedfinger. Professor Nicholas Lowe, the Harley Street cosmetic dermatologist,

says it will depend on the colour of the tattoo. Red and brown tattoo marks are the most difficult to erase. Blue, greens and black are comparatively easily eradicated. to 12 removal treatments at anything from £200 to £1,000 a time.

Why Lynda of Ambridge has a healthy heart

women

who are

post-menopausal women are as likely to suffer from coronary heart disease as men, even though the treatinent they get is often inferior.
General Practitioner magazine reports that a recent strivey by research workers from the University of Dundee has demonstrated that the factors which predispose women to develop heart disease are different from those which are dangerous to

The Dundee study has revealed that those women who have a character like Lynda Snell, of *The Archers* on Radio 4, and many other busy. competitive, late middle-aged women of the type who are constantly lampooned in films and on television, are less likely to develop

heart disease. It is the quiet, self-effacing women, who retain a feminine ap-proach to life into middle age, who are the vulnerable ones. In medical terminology, possessing a type A self-stressing perprotective

heart disease, housing conditions are much more important to women than to men. If a man is living in a secondrate house in a deprived area. these do not even figure among the top 12 factors which are likely to lead to cardiovascular troubles.

However, where women are concerned, living conditions of this sort are an important consideration. Women are also more likely to develop heart disease if their work does not keep them physically exercised.

A consultation with their family doctor will also display other signs and symptoms which are of a different significance in the two sexes. In men, the total amount of cholesterol present in their blood is more high proportion of this blood fat is carried in the high or low density lipoprotein

low density lipoprotein cholesterol (the more pernicious form) is the relevant factor. rather than the total cholest-

Doctors do not only measure cholesterol in the patient's blood but also another blood fat, the triglycerides. In women, the level of the triglycerides is highly significant these triglyceride levels should be low.

There are also changes in the importance which can be attributed to blood pressure. In the Dundee survey of the female diastolic blood pressure, the lower of the two readings is of no significance. In men, it is the fourth most reliable indicator of the likeli-

hood of a coronary thrombosis and is regarded as a more important risk factor than smoking.

In both sexes the 'It is the the higher reading. quiet, selfis important. Being over-weight is much effacing

more dangerous in men than women; not included in the 12 important facvulnerable' tors for females. Diabetes is a risk factor in both sexes

When assessing the risk of but is relatively more important for women. However, men should watch their vitamin C intake, which should be high, and their alcohol intake. which should not be more than moderate.

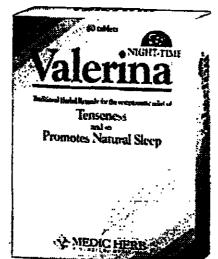
In both sexes, light to moderate drinking, whatever the nature of the alcohol, results in a lower incidence of heart disease than in those who abstain or drink heavily. Those who drink red wine have a particular advantage.

Although the interest in the Dundee research is mainly in the differences between men and women in the relationship of their lifestyles and various factors to heart disease, several other elements are equally

important. Ĉigarette smoking is hazardous for both sexes. And previously had cardiac symptoms, this is a good indication that steps should be taken to prevent a heart attack.

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CLINICALLY TESTED - EFFECTIVE

A REPORT by the charity Research Into Ageing says that 25 per cent of patients who have been told they have Alzheimer's disease have been misdiagnosed. These patients are, in fact, suffering from Lewy body

These patients need different treatment from that recommended for Alzheimer's and some of the drugs used to control the symptoms of Alzheimer's can make them worse. Unfortunately, the difference between the two dementias is not generally

Not all dementia is Alzheimer's

recognised, and all forms of intellectual loss in older age groups is apt to be designated Alzheimer's. Elizabeth Mills, director of Research Into Ageing, said: "Sufferers from Lewy body dementia and their families

need very special support." In Lewy body dementia the degree of disability fluctuates and during the

bad bouts, which sometimes last for days or weeks, the patient may suffer hallucinations, seeing, talking to and even establishing relationships with non-existent people and animals. While deluded, the patients may be aggressive. In between the bad bouts, patients with Lewy body dementia are all too aware of their condition and the problems it causes their families. Many have blackouts, during which time they could suffer a dangerous fall.

Others may show some of the symptoms of Parkinson's disease

Cabbies drive down their sperm count

TOLERATING less experienced road users, putting up with the behaviour of the fares and surviving traffic jams all conspire to do little for a taxi driver's blood pressure. Furthermore, cab drivers don't have time for exercise and are apt to spend hours playing cards in smokey cafés.

It has been accepted for 40 years that the price taxi drivers pay for an independent lifestyle is an increased risk of cardiovascular disease, but until recently nobody had thought to do research into the effect of cab driving on the reproductive system.

A report in the General Journal of Industrial Medicine has compared the sperm count of 72 Roman taxi drivers with the count in an equal number of carefully matched controls - men who are not driving for their living.

The taxi drivers' chance of achieving fatherhood is not improved by their occupation. Their total sperm count, and the number of normal sperm, is reduced even when other factors such as smoking and lack of exercise are taken into

This new report confirms other studies that suggest long hours at the wheel reduce male fertility.

SECTION 2

Robert Altman evokes Thirties jazz and sleaze in the film Kansas City

ARTS. pages *36-39*

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Fashion's strangest muse? Grace Bradberry on a quirky aristocrat with an eye for bizarre talent who inspires Alexander McQueen and Philip Treacy

sabella Blow is an eccentric English aristocrat with a love of hats and a touch of aristocratic hauteur. tendency to wear lipstick on her chin. She is also one of the most influential people in British fashion.

Last month, as Paris buzzed with rumours that Alexander McQueen, designer of the notorious "bumster" trousers. would take over from John Galliano at Givenchy, Isabella was there at his side, in the front row of Rifat Ozbek's show at the Moulin Rouge.

And later that month, when McQueen stood up to make his acceptance speech at the British Fashion Awards, where he had just been named Designer of the Year, it was Isabella he thanked - along with his mum. Later in the evening, Philip Treacy, whose hats dominate both Ascot and the Paris catwalks, also paid her an effusive tribute.

To these two men. Mrs Blow, 38. the wife of Bristol barrister Detmar Blow, is muse, confidante and kingmaker. Julien Macdonald, a Welsh knitwear designer spotted by Karl Lagerfeld even before he left the Royal College of Art, has become her third protégé. It is an enviable position: when McQueen graduated from St Martin's in 1992, she bought his entire collection. With her help, his apparently absurd style sparked the whole hipster

Her ability to anticipate an improbable trend verges on the uncanny. She is the woman who, four years ago, was to be seen wearing highwaisted Big Knickers under see-through dresses — a look that appeared this autumn on the catwalks of Milan and Paris.

Yet despite her undenjable. eye for talent, there are plenty of people in the fashion world who regard Mrs Blow as a ridiculous figure - at best an eccentric, at worst a groupie whose social connections and wealth enable her to play the fashion grande dame, in the manner of Diana Vreeland, without the talent to back it up.

Like Vreeland, her appearance is arresting rather than beautiful. She has protuberant.

At the dinner after the British Fashion Awards last month, her face was scarcely visible. On this occasion she was wearing a truly remark-able McQueen dress which rose up over a kind of crown on the top of her head, then plunged down as far as her waist in a veil at the front. The effect was pure Morticia

"It was extraordinary badluck for her that soup was the first course," says Nicholas Coleridge, managing director of the Vogue publishers, Condé Nast, who was seated with Mrs Blow at dinner that night. "She sort of lifted it to about eye level for dinner, then dropped it down again."

> 'She's a character herself, so it rubs off on the designers'

And his assessment of "Alexander McQueen's so-called muse", as he called her? "izzy Blow has given an awful lot of help to McQueen and others. Probably being a fashion designer is quite a lonely occupation and having somebody vivacious and noisy - I was about to say daft, but I'm not going to - cheers them up."

So what exactly does Mrs Blow do? People have a certain amount of trouble defining this. Her "job" is as a stylist, putting together hats, shoes and dresses for photographic shoots and on the catwalk. She was once style editor of Tatler. her official title is now contributing editor at Vogue, but her exact role there is vague.

"Her talent is really taking up designers and supporting them verbally - and I'm sure financially - and creating a buzz about them, says Lucin-da Chambers, fashion director

herself, so it rubs off on the designers, and they also get publicity as a result of it." But then, Mrs Blow is not the sort of woman whom anyone necessarily expects to have a job. She is the granddaughter of Sir Henry John Delves Broughton, the man cleared of the murder of Lord Erroil in the infamous "Happy Valley" trial in Kenya, and a cousin of the aristocratic supermodel, Honor Fraser, whom she encouraged to go on

the carwalk. Her father, Sir

Evelyo, died in 1993, leaving

her only £5,000. Her mother,

Helen, had been his second

wife. His third wife, Rona, received E7 million. Despite this financial setback, Isabella and her hus-band live in considerable style in his ancestral home in Gloucestershire, where tapestries and portraits of Tudor royalty adorn the walls. They married in 1989 (Isabella had earlier been briefly married to an American). Among the couple's eclectic range of acquaintances is Princess Margaret, who refers to Mrs Blow as, simply. The Hat.

Mrs Blow was educated at Heathfield boarding school, then attended Columbia University in New York, before Anna Wintour, editor of American Vogue, took her on as a fashion assistant. Then, in 1987, Mark Boxer gave her the job of style editor of Tatler. where she set about creating memorable society portraits.

ut it was a limited sphere of influence, and many in the fashion world believed that she would remain a fringe eccentric. It would be an

easy mistake to make.

The fashion world is, of course, rich in colourful sacred monsters - but Mrs Blow is eccentric enough to stand out. And her status as muse to McQueen may be about to pay dividends. In March, The New York Times described her as the key to the two strongest shows in London this season

- Alexander McQueen and Philip Treacy". With McQueen's move to Paris, his muse may be about to storm the most prestigious ramparts



How I was cut off by the fire

The drama in the Channel Tunnel has made us an island race once again, declares Libby Purves

TWO YEARS on from its first journey beneath the Channel, we were Le Shuttle virgins: crusty old shellbacks loyal to the ferry and to lurching across the Do-ver Strait in little sailing boats. On Monday, we decided on a whim to let technology take us over the water. Sorry, under the water. It is just as well we do not believe in a smart alec deity who would set fire to a lorry just to teach

us a lesson. The outward journey went smoothly: coasting down a slack M20, cruising beneath the white gantries and through the blandness

of the pre-tunshopping mall, we began to believe in millennial Britain: efficient, Europhile, 25 minutes from mainland Europe in the Thatcherite affluence of your own car. During the crossing there

was an artfully stage-managed atmosphere of mild boredom, designed to neutralise tunnel nerves. And once you have got used to the peculiar sensation of sitting in a car seat which is swaying like a train, the novelty is over. So is the trip: half an hour from the

Folkestone pay booth we were on the Calais bypass.
Altogether, 1 felt, this is the great anticlimax to our island history. RIP the romance of the Channel crossing: the Scarlet Pimabout "Fog in Channel, Continent cut off". All gone down the bland tunnel.

Talk Radio emoting loud-

ly: "Would you use the tunnel now? Ring us. What I want to know is, why doesn't it leak?" Radio 5 had 20 minutes of fashion features followed by a brief bulletin saying it would be "afternoon" before the tunnel reopened; then a French station, better informed, said it would be a

As we swerved off for Calais port, peering at road signs obscured by the blizzard, the French station announced that Channel ferries were severely disrupted by gales. Continent

'A sign said Dunkirk. P&O ferry

some little ships come and get us?"

pernel fleeing the Jacobites, Catholics fleeing Elizabeth I, the little ships of Dunkirk, the magic of the words Fair stood the wind for France, and jokes You know what han-

pened. Driving confidently back on Tuesday towards its mouth, we turned on the Radio 4 news to hear of the freight train fire. We found full day or longer. Thick snow began to fall.

cut off. We passed a sign to Dunkirk. May-be some little ships would come and get

Would our shuttle tickets with visible denfreude. There were three hours in

the ferry queue while the *Pride* of Burgundy laboured towards us against a full south-easterly gale. After a crossing marked by jarring thuds as she fell off waves, there was half an hour of heaving and crashing outside Dover harbour because conditions were too wild for many ferries to manoeuvre together.

ABOARD our gallant ship,

long polyglot queues formed for the single radiotelephone. The continentals were visibly dejected about their messed-up schedules and the way Britain had suddenly floated away, far from their grasp across wild water. By contrast the British. even the most Eurostarry of them, were curiously cheerful. We had been robbed of our convenience. of the 21st-century dream. But we had been given back a very British adventure. We were reborn as an island nation, hard to reach and proud of it.



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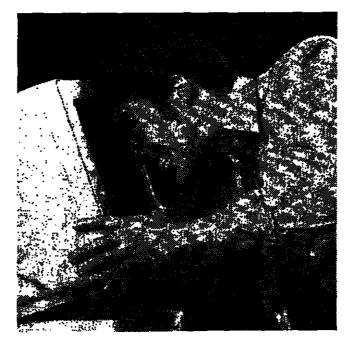


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What can The Ridings teach us?

Chris Woodhead, Chief Inspector

of Schools, on what went wrong

Testerday saw the publication of school league tables: today, the Office of Standards in Education launches its report on pupils who are excluded from school. What is happening in schools? Many who watched the recent Panorama programme on classroom anarchy at The Ridings School in Halifax must have been slumped in despair. The V-signs of the girls following the headteacher up the steps said it all: this was a school where there was neither authority nor respect: neither teaching nor learning. A school which, if it is in any sense typical. symbolises the failure of our state system of education.

It is not typical. This statement, given the huge impact of the television pictures, bears repetition. State education is alive and well. In 80 per cent of schools, pupils are ready and willing to learn.

The problems of The Ridings, however, cannot be ignored. What should be done about the 2 per cent of schools which fail their inspections? In the case of The Ridings, the headteacher was not tough enough. Too many teachers had given up. The education authority had given inadequate support.

But some people say the school's job Failure at was impossible. In The Ridings Times Educational cannot be Supplement, this was a "leper" school blamed on trying to educate selection 'ghetto" children. It was doomed from

lay not with the teachers or the educational authority, but with divisive social and educational policies which have led inexorably to the creation of such schools.

We know from inspection evidence that some schools racing equally offici stances are succeeding. Hey-wood School, for example, in Rochdale, has not excluded one pupil in five years. Pupils who have been excluded from other schools are now making good progress there. Such schools succeed with difficult pupils because they establish clear expectations. They take every opportunity to reward achievement. Daily routines are managed very carefully. Whereas the corridors at The Ridings were a race track, pupils at Heywood move quietly and sensibly around their school. Their behaviour is a testament to the skill and commitment of some outstanding teachers. It can be dime: none of us should accept the bleakly deterministic view that some schools, like some

children, are born to fail. But isn't it true that current educational policies have made failures like The Ridings more likely? With more motivated and brighter pupils going to grant-maintained and grammar schools, is it not inevitable that this school

would be left with a rump. The answer is that if parents have the right to choose their children's schools, some schools will be more popular than others, and one is likely to become the most unpopular of all. This would almost certainly have been the case if Halifax had had a totally com-

prehensive system of educa-tion. In Calderdalc, as in every other area of the country, a mix of pupils in each school can be achieved only if restrictions are imposed on parental choice. Whether or not such an approach is acceptable is for politicians and the electorate to decide. The failure of The Ridings cannot, however, be blamed entirely on the existence of nearby grammar and grant maintained schools.

Schools at the bottom of the popularity league must not be allowed to fail. The future of The Ridings depends upon three things: determined leadership, exclusion of pupils who reject the conventions of normai schooling, and motivation of teachers who have lost the will to improve. It is as easy to write down as it will be hard for the new head to achieve.

Yet schools such as Urchfont Primary in Wiltshire, which failed its inspection in 1993, show what can be achieved, and how quickly. Urchfont is now not just an adequate school, but a good one. Given a will to improve, a clear understanding of the problems, and steady application of management and classroom common sense, the most desperate situations can be remedied.

But we need to know which schools are failing. This is why the system of school inspection is so important. Probiems need to be brought into the open. Those who would abolish inspections and re-

turn to dealing with school failures in private or not at all must be resisted by politicians of all parties. What else can we do to improve the prospects of in-

ner-city children? We need first to move on from our current preoccupation with behaviour can be avoided. We must spread the good practice of schools like Heywood. We should ensure that older pupils study subjects that are relevant to them and have the choice of vocational courses.

This is not to imply that sanctions will not be needed. There will be children who do not conform, and if they are ruining things for everyone else, special provision must be made for them. The problem here is that too few education authorities have thoroughly investigated the incidence and range of pupils' special educational needs. Too few have an appropriate range of provision. Exclusion is a necessary evil, but those who are excluded have a right to continued education. This is not always

Finally, we need to acknowledge the obvious truth that children who leave primary schools unable to read are secondary schools. They will misbehave because they are bored, because they know that they have failed, and because their self-esteem. Nothing is more important in the drive to raise educational standards than the recognition that literacy matters and that present standards, particularly in inner-city primary schools, are nothing like good enough.

sneep. Paddington confirms that

trains from Wales were delayed

vesterday after a flock wandered

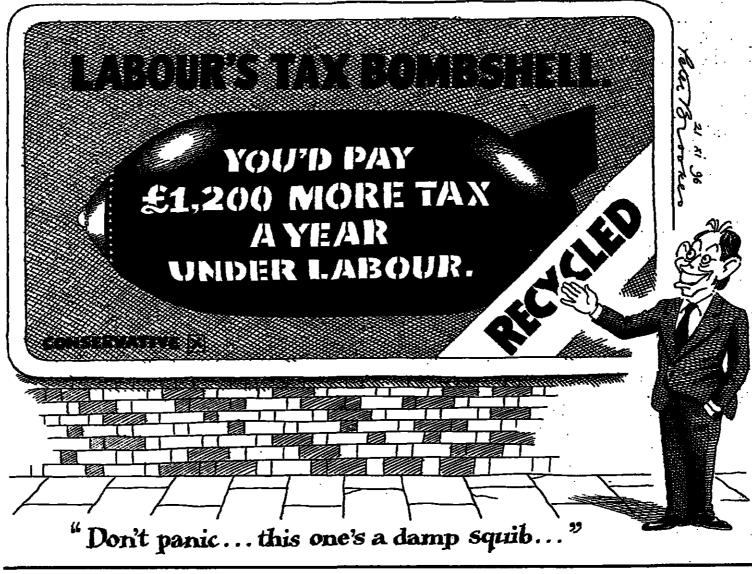
onto the line at Wootton Bassett.

west of Swindon, A woolly excuse.

GOOD NEWS: Rachel Lawrence.

daughter of Sir Ivan Lawrence, the

Keep it brief



The geography of libel

olds, then the Taoiseach (Prime Minister) of the Irish Republic, I nominated his Attorney General. Harry Whelehan, as President of the High Court. The nomination was challenged because Whelehan had apparently been dilatory in seeking the extradition of Brendan Smyth, a paedophile priest. Reynolds at first defended the nomination in the Dail, but later withdrew the defence. The Irish Labour Party, led by Dick Spring, felt it had been misled, and withdrew from the coalition. Mr Reynolds ceased to be Prime Minister. The Sunday Times then published an article, based on information from an Irish Labour Party source, headed "Goodbye, Gombeen Man. Why a fib too far

proved fatal". Mr Reynolds sued for libel in a payment into court of £5.005, which would also have covered his costs up to that point. After a 24-day hearing, the jury found in his favour. but awarded him zero damages. Because the damages fell short of the sum paid into court. Mr Reynolds is liable for the bulk of the costs of both sides in the case, which have been estimated at around £1 million. The Sunday Times also pleaded qualified privilege, which is about to be argued. The accusation that Mr Reynolds knowingly lied had been

made in the Dail itself. Following the failure of the Botham-Lamb libel action against Imran Khan, which also resulted in heavy costs against the plaintiffs, the Reynolds case is a further warning against avoidable actions for defamation. Albert Reynolds has been a litigant before: he has previously taken 170,000 in damages off The Sunday Times and about \$80,000 from other publications, including The Guinness Book of Regards, Even now he is not a ruined man, though the costs will obviously be a serious

blow to his finances The action itself was not frivelors. but was inappropriate. The charge of lying to parliament is a serious one to make against any prime minister. One cannot blame Mr Reynolds for wishing to demonstrate that his first statement to the Dail was true to the best of his belief when he made it. But it is hard to conceive of a less appropriate forum before which to bring his case. If a British Prame Minister were to be accused of lying to the House of Communs, that Should the former Taoiseach be able to

sue a British newspaper in London?

Commons: a report of such a debate would have absolute privilege. In the same way, a charge of lying to the Dail is a matter for the Dail. It is heartening that the issue of qualified privilege is to be determined; in equity, statements in the Dail ought to have qualified privilege if former Irish Prime Ministers are to make them the subject of litigation in the

English courts.

Mr Reynolds has stated that he wanted to clear his name because he felt "just absolutely dreadful" when he read the story. "A liar: I don't vanished from my memory. Beside

know any worse say of me." If he really cannot think of anything worse that people could say of him, he has a limited imagination. He survived decades in the

knockabout world of Irish politics, jostling with such characters as Charlie Haughey. He can hardly be so thin-skinned he can think of nothing worse than being accused of

ome of his friends in Dublin have been saying that it is impossible for an Irishman to receive justice in a British court. The jury did not know that any sum had been paid into court. and therefore could not have known the consequence of their judgment in terms of costs. But what was Mr Reynolds doing in an English court anyway? The Republic of Ireland has been an independent country for more than 70 years. It is inconceivable that a British Prime Minister, brought down after some mw in the House of Commons. would have chosen to sue The Irish Times in Dublin in order to vindicate

himself. The jury's actual finding seems perfectly reasonable. It came to the conclusion that The Sunday Times article was defamatory. It is a libel to assert that a Prime Minister has fied to his parliament or his colleagues. The jury members must have found that The Sunday Times had failed to prove that Mr Reynolds

time of his first statement. They had heard the evidence. They then found that the article had not damaged him

in Britain. That also seems right to me. I had remembered from the reports of 1994 that Mr Reynolds had lost the premiership because of a row with the Labour Party over the Whelehan nomination, though I had forgotten Whelehan's name. The finer points of what Mr Reynolds had known or not known, or when, or of what he had. said to Mr Spring had long since

the big event of an ter resigning. The Sunday Times calling him a "Gombeen Man* or even a fibber seems trivial. In any case, I have a rather at-

tractive picture of a Gombeen Man as a Yeatsian ped-dler, with a tray full of coloured ribbons. I would not have thought the worse of Albert Reynolds for being a Gombeen Man, even if the jury had

held that he was one. This is by no means the first time the British press has been threatened by an action for defamation by a foreign politician on matters arising from his domestic politics, nor is it the first time that has happened to The Sunday Times. In the early 1960s, when I was its Deputy Editor. The Sunday Times had a difficult case with a powerful African minister accused of corruption and intimidation. We reported the allegations, which we believed to be true. He threatened us with a writ for libel, and demanded an apology and damages. We re-fused, even though our witnesses were too scared to come to court. Fortunately, he did not pursue the matter further, but he could have done so and we would have had no

real answer in law. Mr Reynolds made £150,000 or so from his successful libel actions, but that is peanuts compared to the opportunities which might be open to President Mobutu of Zaire. Every newspaper in London has alleged that he has billions of dollars in

secret Swiss bank accounts. None of us could get the businessmen who paid the bribes, the officials who transferred them into Swiss accounts. or the Swiss bankers themselves to give evidence in support of a plea of justification. Nor would it be any defence to say that Mobutu is widely believed to be corrupt; if one reports a suspicion, it is the fact and not the suspicion that one has

The press has an important job of reporting the affairs of other countries. In the United States it is almost impossible for anyone in public life to sue for defamation, because that is held to be against the guarantee of freedom of speech under the First Amendment. The British press reports the allegations which are made in the American press. Many of them are libellous. In some cases truth of these allegations; but in other cases probably not. It is theoretically open to half the leading politicians of America and most of the leading film-stars to brief leading counsel and have a field day in the

here are two fundamental differences between defamation of domestic and foreign public figures. The standard of proof a newspaper ought to require of an allegation against a British public figure must be higher than mere suspicion. Yet it is impossible to report the affairs of foreign countries properly without reporting widely held suspicions as such. Take the current allegations of paedophile conduct against the Belgian Deputy Prime Minister, Elio Di Rupo. These are being universally reported in the British press, and rightly so. Yet I doubt if any British newspaper could prove the truth of them; the Belgian Parliament, which has opened an inquiry, may or may not have qualified privilege in British law. Technically the British press must be exposed to a Reynolds-type action for defamation by Di Rupo, and paedophile conduct is much more serious than lying.

There is a geography of reputation. Albert Reynolds has his reputation largely in Ireland, where they know him, not in England, where he is simply a foreign politician. The lesson of the Reynolds case is that there is no call for foreign statesmen to vindicate their domestic politics in our law courts.

Save St Pancras, my lords Giles Worsley on

today's vote about

The technical clauses of complex

the station's fate

parliamentary Bills are so mind-numbingly boring and obscure that they are seldom read with the attention they deserve. That is the only reason I can see why one of the most insidious threats to Britain's historic buildings since the demolition of the Euston Arch should be stealthily creeping through Parliament almost completely unnoticed. St Pancras Station is only a few: hundred yards from that late, lamented arch. For years it lay dirty and neglected, victim to British Rail's. undisguised desire to knock it down.

But times change. Today, with its
brightly coloured brickwork gleaming in the sun. St Pancras is the maiden aunt of Britain's historic

you might think that St Pancras was safe. You would be wrong.
The Channel Tunnel Rail Link Bill has its third and final reading in the House of Lords this evening, and if it goes through unamended, the future of St Pancras will be very uncertain. The same will be true of any other: historic building that might subse-

buildings, eccentric but much loved.

Quite rightly it is listed Grade I. So

quently be threatened by a similar development project. That St Pancras should have been chosen as the terminal for the new high-speed rail link to the Channel Tunnel is excellent news. After years of sad underuse, it will at last have a ; role that suits its dignity. What better 🕟 🕚 way could there be to hail the new: railway age than to bring the high speed train to rest under the arch of William Barlow's great train shed, universally regarded as one of the triumphs of Victorian engineering?

The trouble is that if the Bill is passed as it stands, we have no idea what St Pancras will look like when the first train arrives. In an unprecedented move, the Government has believed not only removed works at St Pancras from normal listed building control. but has also abandoned its own ultimate power to decide whether major aspects of proposed alterations are acceptable.

Adapting a Victorian railway station to the demands of the 21st century will not be easy. The train shed will have to be more than doubled in barriers will have to be installed, and escalators and check-in facilities will be needed to cope with the vast increase in passengers.

The superb restoration and extension of Liverpool Street shows that a station can actually be enhanced as modern engineering demands are met if the building is treated with sensitivity and respect. The St Pancras developers London and Continental have made ringing declarations of good intent, but what happens to the station will be left in happens to the station will be left in

happens to the station will be left in their unfettered hands. Who can say how the designs may change when finance proves tight or time presses?

Thile there is a procedure for agreeing plans with English Heritage and Camden, and the local authority, key areas of work the local authority, key areas of work the local authority, key areas of work and the sweluded. No objective and the sweluded of the sweluded tions to any plans for demolition to clear space for machinery of station clear space for machinery of station equipment, or to the position or size of any other parts of the station, apart from the shops, need be heeded. This the part would have no control over the design of the northern extension of the train shed or the extent of demolition of the extent of the demolition of the ornate western flank of the building, nor over the internal appearance of the station.

All that would restrain the developers are the "Planning and Heritage Minimum Requirements", which consist of little more than vague statements such as "the open nature and spatial integrity of St Pancras train shed will be substantially

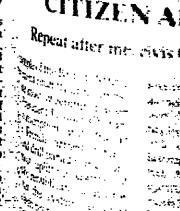
This unprecedented situation has come about because the Bill is a ... flagship Private Finance Initiative. The Departments of Transport and the Environment are determined that anything which might put off potential investors should be buildozed out. of the way. And the Department of National Heritage, which should have been fighting conservation's corner, is far too weak a department to put up any opposition to these two: heavy-hitting ministries.

To a Government committed to deregulation, the continuing strength of conservation legislation stands out of conservation legislation stands out as something of an anomaly. Are the association provisions in this

placing it in last Friday's business statement, and has acted to forestall a. threatened backbench revolt in the

problem. The Government must remain a reserve power to deal with any problems with the detailed designs. It must retain the right to insist that unnecessary harm to the building's old fabric be avoided. It is up to the Lords to ensure that this

P·H·S The author is Ed on Architecture.



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skimpy heritage provision.

Bill prototypes for a new approach to planning controls if the Conservatives should return to power after the next election, or perhaps after the election after that?

Desperate to hustle this Bill through with minimal publicity, the Covernment has brought forward.

The second secon There is an easy solution to the

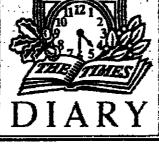
Knavish tricks

THE CONSERVATIVE Party is being dragged inadvertently into another sleaze war. One of its spindoctors has become embroiled in a libel action starting in the High Court next Monday over British Airways dirty tricks campaign.

Eileen Wise, formerly of Disney and now head of news at Central Office, as well as personal pressadviser to Norma Major on her book tour, is acting as a character witness for the plaintiff, Brian Basham, a lifelong socialist.

The case concerns allegations in the book Dirty Tricks: British Airways' Secret War against Virgin Atlantic. Basham is suing its author Martyn Gregory. Wise used to be married to Basham. who has worked for Hastings Banda of Malawi, the late Robert Maxwell and my dear friend Mohamed Al Fayed.

Senior Tories are mortified: some individuals in Central Office are gleeful. But vesterday, Wise was keeping calm: This is an entirely private matter related to something that happened several years ago and has nothing whatsoever to do with my job here."



bristling MP for Burton, has been voted Achiever of the Year at the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust's annual awards at the Dorchester. Miss Lawrence, who suffers from the condition, is a practising barrister. She was proposed by an old school friend. Samantha Walker. who, costly enough, is Sir Ivan's researcher. "I hope her award will inspire her to push a couple of Chanel suits my way," said Miss Walker. Sir Ivan, a flinty backbench presence, is tickled. "Rachel is extremely talented and certainly makes much shorter speeches than I do." Sir Ivan holds the record for the longest speech in Parliament this century.

• For any red-braces types still left over from the Eighties, forget drinking Beaujolais nouveau for the next few days. The French

time, are blocking motorways across France. This, after the Channel Tunnel fire, has left lorryloads of the wine unable to reach Britain today for Beaujolais nouveau day. On the positive side, a few more days may give the stuff time to improve.

No ferrets

SIR EDWARD Heath, a mean tippler in his day, has secured a political triumph to be proud of (at last). He has saved a 226-year-old pub in his constituency. Old Bexley and Sideup, from being renamed the



Ferret and Trouser-leg. Its creaking inn sign will remain Guy, the Earl of Warwick. Sir Edward started his campaign of resistance in August,

and has just been rewarded with a letter from the brewery saying no change of name is now planned. Sir Edward says: "This particular crass and vulgar proposal has been shelved. The people of Welling will now be spared the indignity of going to the Ferret and Trouser-leg merely because they wish to enjoy an innocent pint." The threat of half-litres remains.

Helping hand

NEW YORK'S early morning commuters had a rare treat recently, courtesy of the Manhattan refuse collection services and Honor Fraser, model and the best thing to come out of Scotland since shortbread. The incident occurred when Miss Fraser was shooting a promotional video for Tuesday's launch of the 1997 Pirelli calendar, one of the less tiresome events for the male diarist.

She was strolling down the street when a refuse truck dumped its load right in front of her. Without a moment's hesitation, Miss Fraser bent down and began helping the dustman clean up, hurling



other models turned pale," said the video's director. Miss Fraser's grandfather was, after all, Lord Lovat, D-Day hero and legendary

essential power is restored.

The author is Editor of Perspectives
on Architecture.

"You're on a free Rachel: short and sweet the bags into the hopper. "All the Not leaves on the line this time. unions, transport workers this





BOMB SCARE

Labour can turn Tory tax attacks to its advantage

Like First World War generals, the Conservative leadership believes in heavy prelimi-nary bombardment before battle is formally joined. The deployment of the "tax bombshell" barrage against Labour fully six months before the Government's preferred election date is intended to damage the reputation for fiscal prudence cultivated by Gordon Brown. The Conservatives' attack has been eclipsed by the suggestion that they have been maladroit in seeking to enlist the authority of the Cabinet Secretary for their analysis of Labour's spending pledges. In the short term, the confusion has blunted the thrust of a Tory assault on a front where Labour is still vulnerable. In the long term, however, by attacking in such detail and so early, by using bombardment rather than blitzkrieg, the Tories may actually, like the Great War generals, be giving their opponents time to strengthen their defences.

New Labour protests it will not embark on a tax and spend programme. Indeed Gordon Brown has dared to present himself as, if anything, even tighter with the chequebook than Kenneth Clarke. But Mr Brown's party still flirtatiously hints to the e ectorate that certain spending "aspirations" will be indulged. The Shadow Chancellor has, himself, been rigorous in his insistence that every explicit spending commitment be matched by an equivalent expenditure cut or funded out of alreadyannounced tax changes. His plans to deal with youth unemployment are predicated on income from a windfall tax on the privatised utilities. Proposals to reduce class sizes will be paid for with money it is hoped will be released by the abolition of the Assisted. Places Scheme. Other Labour positions have, however, not been so cautiously circumscribed.

The Tory dossier published yesterday lists a series of pronouncements which, while:

falling short of absolute commitments, are intended to give the impression of openhandedness in office. With plans to give London its own authority, to set up a network of women's refuges and to change benefit rules to make it easier for the unemployed to study, Labour has policies which may have attractions but also carry price tags. Mr Brown may argue that no policies should be considered commitments until they appear in the manifesto but his colleagues cannot resist tantalising the voters. The Tories are right to argue Labour is playing the coquette even as it straps on the chastity belt. But then the Conservatives are not wholly virtuous either.

It is mischievous to set a figure of £3,700 million as the cost to the taxpayer of a minimum wage when Labour have said they will not set its level until after consulting with employers and workers. Yet the Tories are performing a public service by attempting to draw attention to the potential impact of some of Labour's policies. Mr Brown and his colleagues will now be under greater pressure to explain which kites they have flown are to become commitments they will honour.

Given the unhappy history of Shadow Budgets it is understandable that Gordon Brown should want to take as much time as possible to refine his proposed new tax regime before unveiling it. He should, however, show his hand as quickly as possible after next week's Budget. If he is to win the argument for change he cannot leave matters too late. Voters must be persuaded that any increase at the upper end of income tax will not damage incentives and even depress revenues. It is not enough for Labour to dismiss Tory assumptions as lies", if the Opposition are to overcome the history of past mistrust they must take the public more fully into their trust.

MADNESS IN MINSK

Belarus deserves better than Lukashenko

a more dismal post-Soviet history than Belarus. From the moment it reluctantly declared independence, this featureless land. between Poland and Russia has floundered in its search for a new identity and a new political and economic system. After halfhearted and ineffective attempts at economic reform, the country was already falling far behind other former communist countries when it elected Aleksandr Lukashenko as seen precipitous. The former communist. collective farm chairman, a populist demagogue, has made no secret of his determination to take Belarus back to a Soviet style past: controlled prices, one-party leadership, a censored press and repression of democrats, independent thinkers and all human rights campaigners.

Mr Lukashenko has largely had his own way in turning Belarus back into a classic Soviet republic. Never hesitating to use the thugs of the former local KGB to intimidate his opponents, he has muzzled the press, closed radio stations, halted privatisation, ordered the arrest of political enemies, ignored parliament and denounced democratic elections. Belarus has discarded its post-independence symbols, banned independent trade unions, embraced the cause of reunion with Russia, and saluted the armed forces who shot down two American air balloon pilots taking part in a race last year. Most alarmingly, he is now threatening to hold on to the former Soviet republic's nuclear weapons as a way of forcing Nato to abandon its plans for enlargement.

Yet still Mr Lukashenko hankers for more authority. He has called a referendum on Sunday on whether he should be granted the

Of all the former Soviet republics, none has kind of enabling powers that Hitler demanded a month after coming to power in 1933. He wants voters to approve a two-year extension to his mandate, further restrictions on the press and political opponents and the authority to make decisions unchecked by any other organ of power.

Cowed opponents and a generally docile population have had enough: this week they have taken to the streets, risking a severe beating from the police. The Prime Minister speaker of the parliament and main opposition leader, has demanded the referendum be scrapped. Western governments have protested strongly, but have little leverage: Western aid has dwindled to a trickle. Mr Lukashenko listens to no one but those in the Kremlin with whom he would like to reunite his country.

The Russians were at first flattered by the obsequious flattery from Minsk and were willing to turn a blind eye to the squalid regime in their back yard. But reformers are increasingly worried that re-integration, especially any renewed monetary union with a country politically and economically out of control, would drag Russia down. Mr Yeltsin's own tolerance of Mr Lukashenko dwindled after his overt support for Mr Yeltsin's communist opponent in June. Now the Russians are urging both sides in Minsk to avoid confrontation and attend peace talks in Smolensk. Typically, Mr Lukashenko has refused. His paranoia, daily fed by aides reporting on his opponents, brings a bloody showdown nearer. The West can do little; but Moscow must now cast adrift this petty would-be dictator who threatens complete ruin for his beleaguered country.

CITIZEN ARMY

Repeat after me: civis Gallus sum

Citing the good example of the British Army, the French Government recently announced what is perhaps the most sweeping change yet announced by President Jacques Chiracthe abolition of conscription and drastic shrinkage of the French armed forces. Cleaning latrines and drill parades may not have been the most uplifting course of instruction on Gallic republican values for every conscript, but the system at least guaranteed that a high proportion of young French men had some contact with the State and its raison d'être. But while putting the army on a diet and reorganising it for the challenges of a new century make good military sense and help cut public expenditure, what opportunities remain for the State to mould the outlook of the citoyens of the next millennium? Precious few, according to the Gaullists who have been pressing President Chirac to create six-month courses

in civic instruction. Unfortunately France is busy trying to cut costs in order to be at the rendez-vous for European monetary union. The "citizen rendezvous" to which young French men and women will now be summoned will give birth to a new academic discipline: condensed civies. The course of instruction on civic virtue and value mixed with a little careers advice will last just five days.

Quite apart from the dangers that the 12 civic instruction centres will turn into holiday camps. this brief encounter with the glory that is France can hardly do justice to the rich tapestry of French state-building

and tradition. Inculcating rights and duties, as numerous voices have argued in Britain over the past few weeks, remains a vital and neglected duty of a society. But how on earth will anyone ever agree on a curriculum lasting a week? The French school system has had enough trouble with issues of spiritual education and dress regulation raised by the several million Muslims in France. Will Andre Malraux, the latest cultural icon to be rescued by the present Government, go in and out of fashion as Gaullists go in and out of the Elysée? Or will the hapless instructors confine themselves to enumerating the up-to-date tariff of penalties for ignoring a traffic light?

What should the citizens of tomorrow be told about the State itself? President Chirac's Prime Minister has reminded France recently of the central importance of the nation state. Yet the Government headed by both men is sauntering gaily towards a single currency which will do more to usurp that State than anything except armed invasion. The French Government is being urged to organise civic education to nurture social stability. President Chirac, in common with politicians as diverse as John Major, Tony Blair and Bill Clinton, seeks to strengthen civic bonds. Yet France promotes supranational government in Europe which weakens the most legitimate and solid form of government currently in existence in Europe, national government. This is a paradox which the young citizens of tomorrow might like to take up with their teachers.

Safety lessons of the tunnel fire

From Brigadier John Constant

Sir, In 1970, when we were conducting the feasibility study for a fixed link between Britain and France (reports, article, leading article, November 20), we discussed all foreseeable emergencies with the appropriate authorities on both sides of the Channel, and every conceivable safety measure was considered in great depth.

Our conclusions for the shuttle service included closed single-decker wagons for heavy goods vehicles, as for the double-decker car wagons.

In situations like that on Monday we envisaged that the train would keep going for the short period (approximately 11 minutes in this case) until clear of the tunnel at its far end, when the emergency services would be better able to tackle the fire in the sealed wagon, and the smoke would have been contained in it.

Now, it appears that urgent consideration should once more be given to the measures outlined above. I feel sure that their cost would be less than that now likely for the repairs both to the tunnel itself and to Eurotunnel's

However, it should be remembered that a similar fire in a ship, or on a crowded street, might also prove dangerous, and further consideration must be given to the widespread use and carriage of hazardous materials.

Yours faithfully, J. CONSTANT (Head of Channel Tunnel Engineering. Ministry of Transport, 1968-71), The River Cottage, Coombe Road, Dartmouth, South Devon. November 20.

Monetary union

From Professor Emeritus Anthony Ralston

Sir, Bernard Connolly ("Kenneth Clarke's Faustian pact", November 8) is probably correct that "a government that is part of a monetary union will have to balance its budget". But the implications of this would be less disastrous than he implies.

Many American states are bound by their state constitutions to balance their budgets every year. Does this make them either more fiscally responsible or more constrained than the federal government which has no such restriction? No. indeed.

There are many "creative" ways to avoid the constraint of a balanced budget. The most commonly used of these in the United States is to sell ponas. Want to bu a transport bond which won't affect the budget until interest and principal have to be repaid. Want to build a new government building? Sell a construction bond, etc.

You can be sure that any British government would find a variety of techniques to get around the restric-tion of a balanced budget.

Sincerely, ANTHONY RALSTON (Academic visitor, Department of Computing, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine), Flat 4, Albert Court, 58 Prince Consort Road, SW7. November 8.

Architects of history

From Professor Emeritus Luke Herrmann

Sir, It is good to learn that the Sir John Soane's Museum in London will be able to acquire No 14 Lincoln's Inn Fields, thanks to a timely lottery grant (report, November 15).

The consequent expansion will certainly further its founder's aim to encourage the study of architecture and of architectural history. However, the present curator was wrong in claiming Soane as "the first and greatest professor of architecture in England". There were in fact two earlier professors of architecture at the Royal Academy, Thomas Sandby, from its foundation in 1768 to 1798, and George Dance, from 1798 to 1805. Dance was succeeded by Soane, who was professor from 1806 to 1837.

Soane was definitely not the first professor. Whether he was the greatest is a matter of opinion - the rollcall of his 19th-century successors includes C. R. Cockerell, Sir George Gilbert Scott and George Edmund Street.

Yours faithfully. LUKE HERRMANN, The Coombes, Sibbertoft, Market Harborough, Leicestershire. November 15.

Two minutes' silence

From Mr N. J. Inkley Sir, In calling for an end to the Remembrance Day ritual, Mr Les Holley (letter, November 16) says that those who remain do not need silence or ceremony to remember their loved

We all remain. Mr Holley, or at least we all remain as we are, thanks to those past sacrifices.

Yours faithfully. NEIL INKLEY, 6 Knot Lane, Walton-le-Dale, Preston, Lancashire, November 16.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -0171-782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

dy for so long as UK government tax policy continues to militate against us and our fellow UK brewers.

governments, in an effort to subsidise cuts on direct taxation, have instituted high increases in indirect taxation on alcohol and other excise goods.

alcohol, which competes in a fiercely competitive leisure market: we pay VAT on most products, but on alcohol we pay VAT on top of excise.

Treaty of Rome in 1973 member governments have been obliged to work towards fiscal harmony; but successive administrations have pursued conflicting strategies, and the advent of the Single Market in 1993, encouraging a huge trade (both legal and illegal) in cross-border shopping, was a isaster for pubs and breweries.

Increasing excise duty over a period of time has inevitably increased the divergence with our European partners. The Single Market demands a single fiscal policy and a uniform ex-

Tomorrow, therefore, we will de-

Britain's pubs and brewers at risk liver a petition to Sir Jack Stewart-Clark, MEP, a vice-president of the

European Parliament, asking for the

European Commission to take into ac-count the wide differences in excise

duty between EU member states on

alcoholic beverages in general, and

Our petition will spell out our con-

viction that these differences distort

competition, encourage fraud and cri-

minal activity, result in loss of revenue

to Governments, and cause loss of

We are also convinced that the need

for a move towards both fiscal har-

mony and excise harmony should be

brought to the attention of the Euro-

pean Finance Ministers at their bian-

jobs in vulnerable regions.

beer in particular.

From the Chairman of the Independent Family Brewers of Britain and others

Sir. The future of Britain's local pubs. and of the UK brewers on whom they largely depend, will remain in jeopar-

For far too long this and preceding

Such a policy discriminates against

nual meeting in December. Ever since Britain signed up to the Yours faithfully, A. G. F. FULLER, Chairman, Independent Family Brewers of Britain, C. M. BRAIN, A. Brain & Co Ltd, R. A. S. EVERARD, Everards Brewery Ltd., R. W. D. HANSON, Hardys & Hansons plc, R. H. B. NEAME,

As representatives of the 38 members of the Independent Family Brewers of Britain we believe it is the duty of Government to protect and promote our long-established industry, and that this domestic issue must now be brought to the attention of Brus-

Eldridge Pope & Co plc.

Shepherd Neame Ltd. CHRISTOPHER POPE, P. B. ROBINSON. Frederic Robinson Ltd. JOHN WELLS, Charles Wells Ltd, JOHN YOUNG.

Young & Co's Brewery plc. c/o Fuller. Smith & Turner plc, Griffin Brewery. Chiswick, W4. November 20.

From Mr Lloyd Caldwell

Sir. Nigella Lawson condemns astro-

logy because it is an offence against

science. A pity, then, that her own sci-

ence is somewhat lacking.

"And since the obstetrician or mid-

wife exerts 60,000 times more gravita-

tional force on the baby being born than the nearest planet ...", she

writes. My own calculations show, by

contrast, that our moon (the nearest

"planet" in the terminology of astrolo-

gers) exerts about 6,500 times more

gravitational force than would a 12-

stone midwife at a distance of one

More to the point, how many astrol-

ogers assert that the significance of a

planet for human life is a consequence

of its gravitational attraction? Few. if

Sir, Nigella Lawson has written an

enjoyable and well reasoned essay on

why we believe - but with one impor-

(or science). Else there would be no

scientists who believe in God. As it

happens, millions do. Faith is the opp-

osite of doubt, not reason. After all, we

all have good reason for our faith.

Faith is not the opposite of reason

Yours faithfully.

44 Byron Avenue,

November 14.

Camberley, Surrey.

From Mr T. J. Smith

tant fault in the logic.

LLOYD CALDWELL,

Astrology and belief

From the Suffragan Bishop of Repton

Sir. Nigella Lawson, in "Astrology and the need to believe" (November 13) has surely committed a philosophical solecism.

The answer to the question whether the Universe originated by accident or by design is that we don't know. Belief in God and atheism are both irrational, in the sense that they are beyond reason: both positions require a leap of faith. Astrology, however, is irrational in the sense that it is unscientific.

Yours faithfully, THENRY REPTON. The Diocese of Derby, Repton House, Lea, Matlock. Derbyshire.

From the Bishop of Rochester

Sir, I am grateful to Nigella Lawson for her sympathetic review of our report. The Search for Faith & Witness for the Church. She is wrong, however, about the relation between faith and reason.

Christians have always held that revelation and reason belong together. Reason leads us to a knowledge of God through awareness of the natural world (including our own nature as self-conscious beings). Revelation leads to a knowledge of God as per-

sonal, loving and suffering.

Credo ut intelligam (I believe so that I may understand) has ever been the motto of the Church.

Yours faithfully, †MICHAEL ROFFEN:, Bishopscourt, Rochester, Kent. November 14.

South Woodford, El8. November 13.

5 Raymond Avenue,

Daycare for children From Dr Gillian Pugh

Sir, Allan Levy, QC (Law, November 12), reviews the first five years of the Children Act and concludes, having focused on children in court proceedings, that the Act is, in the main, a suc-

One aspect of the Act he was not able to mention concerns daycare for young children under the age of eight: these children, in playgroups, nurseries and with childminders, are a far larger group than any other to be affected by the Act.

The original guidance in the Act on standards of daycare was widely welcomed by the childcare community. Yet, as the Government has attempted to stimulate the growth of daycare to enable parents, mainly mothers, to return to the labour market, standards

have been diluted.

In the current moral debate, which

T. J. SMITH (engineer).

has included questions about the care and education of young children, public disquiet about the effect of early nursery care is understandable. Repeated research has shown, however, that there are no ill effects, and many benefits, of nursery care, provided standards are high.

As Government develops its policy on childcare, employment and family life, we urge it to make a positive political commitment to the Children Act and to high-quality daycare provision for young children as a support to parents and family life.

Yours faithfully. GILLIAN PUĞH (Director, Early Childhood Unit). National Children's Bureau. 8 Wakley Street, EC1. November 14.

Church freehold

From the Vicar of Kesgrave

Sir, Whenever some short-term difficulty arises over clerical conduct, as at Lincoln, it is not long before someone suggests (the Reverend Andrew de Berry's letter, November 11) that the freehold be "swept aside".

The Anglican ethos of a "middle way" would be quickly lost if the clergy, whether in cathedrals or in parish life, had to depend for their position essentially on the permission of their bishops or their congregations. The freehold has enabled individual clergy to sustain a faithful ministry of service when facing hostility in the Church or from elsewhere.

As Mr de Berry himself says, the Church's new logo and councils are likely to create only "a semblance of modernity". Knocking down the freehold would be part of that same exer-

Yours sincerely, DAVID HARES, Kesgrave, Ipswich, Suffolk.

What's in a name?

From Mrs Clare Blight Sir, Tim Wilson (letter, November 14) is despondent that his name affords

him no literary distinction. Had he adopted the surname of his spouse - as I carelessly did upon marriage - he might be making a different complaint.

Yours faithfully. CLARE BLIGHT, The Barn. Church Lane, Clyst St Mary, Exeter, Devon. November 14.

From Mr Jonathan Rice

Sir, Dr Wilson has my sympathy. All I have to do to get a letter printed in your columns is to wait for a cereal crop failure in the Far East.

Yours faithfully JONATHAN ŘICE, 47 Brockhill Road. Hythe, Kent. November 15.

Business letters, page 31

Charges policy at **British Museum**

From Sir Robert Sainsbury

Sir, As Chairman of Trustees of the Tate Gallery in 1973 I lost a battle with the then Prime Minister, Edward Heath, regarding the imposition of an entrance charge and, on January 2. 1974 (I was no longer a trustee), a charge was announced, operational from three months later. However. when the Government fell, one of the first acts of the incoming Labour Gov-

ernment was to restore free entry. I am now deeply saddened to learn (The high cost of staying free, Arts. November of that unless the annual grant to the British Museum for running costs is increased, the Trustees will have to impose an entrance charge. Put another way, the Government has decided upon an entrance charge for the British Museum but is leaving the Trustees to take responsibility in the eyes of the public.

Ever since the British Museum opened its doors in 1759, admission has been free and a very large number of people of all ages and many nationalities have found this accessibility to be a wonderful benefit. The museum is a great educational resource and surely this role must be maintained and encouraged.

It has been shown that entrance charges appreciably reduce visitors. The British Museum is probably the greatest museum of its kind in the world, with more visitors than either the Louvre in Paris or the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. We must take pride in this and do everything in our power to maintain that enviable position.

Given recent correspondence in your columns (November 8, 13, 14) concerning colossal expenditure on millennium celebrations, perhaps free access to the British Museum is one way the Government could, relatively cheaply, enrich life in Britain in the next millennium.

Yours faithfully, ROBERT SAINSBURY. Stamford House, Stamford Street, SEI.

From Professor Deanna Petherbridge

Sir, Government cuts in grant-in-aid to the British Museum will have a disastrous effect on an already overstretched institution. I'm thinking particularly of the Prints and Drawings Department, which is the envy of similar departments across the world for its generous access and exhibiting policies and the service it offers to

scholars, student groups and visitors. This service depends on expertise ready working beyond normal hours in staffing the study room, preparing prints and drawings for loans, constructing in-house and touring exhibitions and also writing invaluable

scholarly texts. The Prime Minister said in 1994 that money raised by the lottery would not replace existing government spending. With so much money for capital building programmes, what can be the justification for punitive cuts to the running costs of this unique institution, which will anyway be losing considerable revenue when the British Library departs next year?

Yours faithfully. D. PETHERBRIDGE (Professor of Drawing), Royal College of Art.

A seat in Surrey

Kensington Gore, SW7.

From Mrs Sylvia Disley

Sir, Whether or not the Stone of Scone, returned to Scotland with such Pythonesque solemnity last week (report. November 16), was the original one is an arguable point.

However, many may not be aware that there is a Coronation Stone of England standing next to the Guildhall in Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, on which seven Saxon kines of England are said to have been crowned, the last being Ethelred the Unready on April 14, 979. It is beside the Clattern Bridge across the Hogsmill River, a tributary of the Thames, and thousands of people unheedingly walk or drive past it each day.

If the Stone of Scone had been left where it was in the first place, more than 700 years ago, it might now be receiving the same scant attention that is the lot of the Coronation Stone of Kingston and England.

Yours faithfully. SYLVIA DISLEY, Hampton House. Upper Sunbury Road. Hampion. Middlesex.

Cheek to cheek

From Mr Richard Asser

Sir. In 1952 the old Scala cinema in Walton Street, Oxford, was packed for a showing of Les Enfants du Paradis. My companion, an undergraduate at St Hilda's, and I were shown to one of the twin seats (letter, November 18) that were a feature of the establish-

At a moment of high drama on the screen, the cast-iron side of our seat fell off, depositing us both in the aisle. We were just good friends, but the outraged looks of nearby patrons assumed otherwise.

Yours faithfully, RICHARD ASSER. Tadmarton Manor, Banbury, Oxfordshire. November 19.



COURT CIRCULAR

November 20: The Prince of Wales this morning joined members of

the Board of the Environment

Agency on a visit to Devonport Dockyard, Plymouth, Devon.

His Royal Highness. Duke of

Cornwall, this afternoon visited Princetown Brewery, Princetown

Primary School and Merrivale

opened "the Discerning Eye Ex-hibition" at the Mall Galleries,

His Royal Highness later held a Meeting and Dinner at St James's

Palace to discuss developments in integrated healthcare.

November 20: The Princess Mar-garet, Countess of Snowdon, Pa-tron, Pottery and Glass Trades' Benevolent Institution, was

present this evening at a Reception given by the Institution at the Painters' Hall, London, EC4.

November 20: The Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon visited

Hampshire and was received by

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan).

Hampshire (Mrs Mary ragan).
Her Royal Highness opened
Melbury Lodge at the Royal
Hampshire County Hospital,
Romsey Road, Winchester, and
afterwards as Patron, the Enham
Trust, opened Phases I and II of

Cedar Park, Enham Alamein, near

November 20: The Duke of Kent this morning called on Mr Yukihiko Ikeda. Minister of For-

eign Affairs. His Royal Highness, Vice-Chair-

man, the British Overseas Trade

Board, this afternoon attended lunch given by the British Cham-

ber of Commerce, at the Capitol

Tokyu Hotel, Tokyo.
The Duke of Kent this afternoon

had an audience with Their Imper-

ial Majesties The Emperor and Empress of Japan, at the Imperial

A Memorial Service for Lord

Gladwyn will take place in St Margaret's Church, Westminster

Abbey, at noon on Tuesday, January 21, 1997. All are welcome, and

those wishing to attend are re-quested to apply for tickets, for this

Mr Barry Porter,

MP, will take place in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Ab-

bey, at noon on Thursday

those wishing to attend are re-quested to apply for tickets, for this service only, to: The Rector's

Secretary, Room 12, 1 Little Cloi

ter, Westminster Abbey SWIP 3PL, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. Tickets will be posted

Sir Stanley Kalms, founder, Dix-

ons Group, 65: Mr Jacques Laffite, racing driver, 53: Mr Peter Liddle,

racehorse trainer, 60; Miss Natalia Makarova, hallerina, 56; Mr Tim

Robinson, cricketer, 38, Mr Peter Sharpe, Chief Constable, Hert-fordshire, 52, Sir William Stuttaford, former president, Nat-

ional Union of Conservative and

Unionist Associations, 68: Mr Malcolm Williamson, Master of

The Queen's Music, 65; Viscount Younger of Leckie, 90.

mber I.2. Ali are welcome, and

MΡ

Birthdays today

Lord Gladwyn

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE

KENSINGTON PALACE

KENSINGTON PALACE

London SWL

Quarry, Princetown, Devon.
The Prince of Wales this evening

BUCKINGHAM PALACE November 20: The Governor-General of St Vincent and the Grenadines and Lady Antrobus were received by The Queen.

His Excellency Monsieur Dah Ould Abdi was received in audience by Her Majesty and pre-sented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credecesor as Ambassador from the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to

the Court of St James's.

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairst

The Queen received the Bishop of Chester (the Right Reverend Peter Forster) who did homage

upon his appointment.
The Rt Hon Antony Newton MP (Lord President of the Council) administered the Oath. The Bishop of Derby (Clerk of

the Closet) was in attendance. The Queen. Patron, this evening attended the Royal Concert at the Royal Albert Hall in aid of the Musicians' Benevolent Fund and was received by the Chairman of the Royal Concert Committee (Sir John Tooley) and the Chairman of the Musicians' Benevolent Fund

(Mr Philip Jones).

The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended the 1996 Royal Yacht Officers' Reunion Dinner at Gibson Hall, Bishopsgate, London

The Earl of Courtown (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this evening upon the Departure of The Presi-dent of the Republic of Kenya and bade farewell to His Excellency on behalf of Her Majesty.

November 20: The Princess Royal this morning opened the new headquarters of North of Scotland Water Authority, Beechwood Business Park, Inshes, inverness, and was received by the Lord Gray of Contin (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of

Her Royal Highness this after-noon visited Teanassie School, Beauly, Inverness-shire.

Royal engagements

The Queen will visit the Westbourne Centre, Westbourne Road, Bedford, at 11.20; and will

open the Cygnet Wing at Bedford Hospital at 2.45.

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will visit Harrowden Middle School, Bed-

ford, at 11.55; will visit the Corn

Exchange at 12.45; and will open

the new brigade communications centre at County Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Kempston, at 3.35.

The Duke of Edinburgh will visit Bedford Sports and Hockey Club at 11.20; and E.F. Taylor's at 2.50.

The Prince of Wales, on behalf of

The Queen, will hold an investi-ture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00; and, as President of Business

in the Community and The Prince's Trust, will attend the launch of Gifts in Kind UK at St

The Prince Edward, as Chairman

of the International Council, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Inter-

national Association, will attend a

dinner at the Savoy Hotel at 7.45.

The Duke of Gloucester, as President of NABC - Clubs for Young People, will visit clubs in Bristol.

Mr Coningsby Allday, chemical engineer, 41: Miss Beryl Bain-

bridge, writer, 62: Mrs Georgina

Battiscombe, author, 91: Earl Beatty, 50: Mr Roy Boulting, film

producer, 83: Mrs. Tina Brown.

Editor, New Yorker, 43; Mr J.D.

Bullmore, a director. WPP Group.

67: Miss Amelia Freedman, founder, Nash Ensemble, 56: Mr

Michael Grant, classical historian.

82. Miss Goldie Hawn, actress. 51;

James's Palace at 2.00.

Memorial service

Mr Stephen Desch. QC A memorial service for Mr Ste-phen Desch. QC, was held yesterday in the Temple Church. Canon Joseph Robinson, Master of the Temple, officiated and the Very Rev Michael Till, Dean of Win-chester, read the lesson. Mr Richard Little, brother-in-law, Mrs Phillids Goad and Judge David Webster, QC. gave readings. Mrs Julia Desch, widow, sang the introit. Mr Antony Edwards-Stu-art, QC, gave an address. Members of the family, members of 2 Crown Office Row Chambers members of Gray's Inn and many other friends were present

Buckingham Palace luncheon

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh yesterday held a lun-cheon party at Buckingham Palace. The guests were:

ace. The guests were:
Judge Ann Goddard, QC, (circuit
judge), Mrs Zahida Manzoor (deputy chairman, Commission for
Racial Equality). Mr Stephen Lander (director general. Security Service). Mr Geoffrey Parker, (chairman. Teacher Training Agency). Mr David Rowland (chairman, Lloyd's of London), Mr Doug Smith (director, Inland Revenue Self Assessment Programme). Mr Anthony Watson (Editor. The Yorkshire Post) and Mr Richard Wilson (Permanent Under-Secretary of State, Home

Luncheons

HM Government Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a luncheon given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at I Carlton Gardens in honour of the President of Kenya.

Mid Atlantic Club Mrs Edwina Currie, MP, was the guest of honour and speaker at a luncheon of the Mid Atlantic Club held yesterday at the English-Speaking Union. Dr Walter Les-sing presided.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Voltaire, philosopher, man of letters, scientist, Paris, 1694; Samuel Cunard, shipowner, Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1787; Sir Leslie Ward (Spy), caricaturist, London, 1851; Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch, man of letters, Bodmin, 1863; Arthur "Harpo" Marx, actor and comedian, New York, 1888; René Magritte, Surrealist painter. Lessines, Belgium, 1898; Coleman Hawkins, Jazz musician, St. Joseph, Missouri, 1904.

service only, to: The Rector's Secretary, Room 21, I Little Clois-DEATHS: Sir Thomas Gresham. ter, Westminster Abbey SW1P 3PL, enclosing a stamped addressed founder of the Royal Exchange, London, 1579; Henry Purcell com-poser, London, 1695; James Barry Hertzog, Prime Minister of South Africa 1924-39, Pretoria, 1942. The first free fi was made, Paris, 1783. North Carolina became the 12th state of the Union, 1789. A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Mr Barry Porter.

Service dinner

ised rubber, 1843.

9th/12th Royal Lancers Brigadier H.W.K. Pve. Colonel of 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's) Regiment, presided at the annual officers' dinner held last night at the Cavalry and Guards Club.

Thomas Hancock patented vulcan-

Forces appointments MAJOR-GENERAL: Brigadier A.

G. Denaro to be Chief Combat Support ACE Rapid Reaction Corps in the rank of Major-General October 21. COLONEL: S.L. Bennett to be Director HQ BVO. October 21; A.W. Blackett to be DA/MA Kathmandu. October 26.

Guardians of Bristol

Mr Roger Heaman has been installed Master of the Guild of Guardians of the City of Bristol.



The new Bishop of Southampton, the Right Rev Jonathan Gledhill, 47, after his consecration at Southwark Cathedral yesterday

Dinners

and the Dean of Westminster were

Society of St Margaret & St John Westminster. Mr J.L.C. Dribbell,

vice-chairman of the society, pre-sided. Dr C.E. Evans also spoke.

The Treasurer, Mr Edward

Nugee, QC, and Masters of the Bench of the Inner Temple enter-

tained the following guests at dinner in hall last night, it being the Grand Day of Michaelmas

the Grand Day of Michaelmas Term:

The High Commissioner for New Zealand, Viscount Ridley, KG, Viscounters Bremford, the Bishop of London, Lady Mackay of Clashfern, Lady Eames, Lord Bramall, KG, Lord Wilberforce, Lord Templeman, Lord Brightman, Marshal of the RaF Lord Cruig of Radiey, Lord Justice Peter Gibson (treasurer, Lincoln's Inn), Lady Staughton. Sir Michael Colman, Sir Denis Thatcher and Batoness Thatcher, LG, OM, FRS, General Sir Martin Famdale, Sir Boyan Carledge, Sir Peter Crill, Sir Royan Carledge, Sir Peter Crill, Sir Peyan Carledge, Sir Feter Crill, Sir Poyan Carledge, Sir Formandale, Sir Boyan Carledge, Sir Formandale, Sir Boyan Carledge, Sir Formadale, Sir Boyan Carledge, Sir Formadale, Sir Boyan Carledge, Sir Feter Crill, Sir Poyan Carledge, Sir Anthony Carn, Sir David Lees, Mr Conrad Dehn, QC. (treasurer, Gray's Inn), Mr Michael Sherrand, QC, fireasurer, Middle Templel, Mrs Rachel Nugee, Mr Dennis Silk, Mr Edward Dester, Mr Richard Morgan, Mr Ian Watt, Mrs Barbara Paul Robinson, Mr Michael Melluish, Mr John Nugee, Mr Andrew Nugee and Brigadier Peter Little, (sub-treasurer).

Inner Temple

Royal Yachts
The Duke of Edinburgh last night attended a dinner held at Gibson Hall, Bishopsgate, for officers who have served in the Royal Yachts. Commodore AJ.C. Morrow, RN. Vanderpump, Master, assisted by the Wardens, presided. The Lord Mayor, Mr Nigel Nichols, Warden, and Sir Barry Sheen were the speakers. The Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company, the Mas-ters of the Broderers', Loriners', Commodore Royal Yachts, pre-Commodore Royal Yachts, pre-sided Arnong others present were:
Admiral of the Fleet Sir William
Staveley, Admirals Sir Brian Brown
and Sir Jock Slater, Vice-Admirals Sir
Philip Watson, Sir Cameron Rusby,
Sir James Wetherall, the Hon Sir
Nicholas Hill-Noron and M A C
Moor, Rear-Admirals Sir Richard
Trowbridge, Sir Paul Greening, Sir
John Garnier, Sir Robert Woodard, J
H Adams, T M Bevan, J P Evans, P P
M Franklym, A A Lockyer, J H S
McAntally, P B Rowe, J T Saunders, D
M Sberval and K A Snow, Supreon Glass-Sellers' and Tobacco Pipe Makers' and Tobacco Blenders' Companies, the Director-General of Logistic Support, and the Com-mander and Defence Adviser to were among the guests. Past Overseers Society of St Margaret & St John Westmi

McAnally, P B Rowe, J T Sauinders, D R Sherval and K A Snow, Surgeon Rear-Admiral David Lammiman and Surgeon Captain Professor Sir Norman Blacklock. The Lord Mayor of Westminster the guests of honour at the annual dinner of the Past Overseers Bermuda Society

Dr David Saul, Premier of Bermuda, was the principal speaker at the tenth annual dinner of the Bermuda Society held yesterday at Merchant Taylors' Hall. Viscount Dunrossil, chairman, presided.

Anglo-Spanish Society The Spanish Ambassador, President of the Anglo-Spanish Society, accompanied by Señora de Aza, presided at a dinner held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's. Sir Robert Wade-Gery, chairman, received the guests. Mr Felipe

During the dinner the Ambassador presented the Santa Cruz Prize to Mr Jimmy Burns for the best contribution to the society's journal. Others present included: Marquess de Aunon, Sir Ronald and Lady Lindsay of Dowhill, Sir Robin and Lady Feam, Lady Parker and Lady Wade-Gery.

Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers'

The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual livery dinner of the Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers' Company held yesterday

Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors Mr Geoffrey Ashworth presided at the annual dinner of the quantity surveyors' division of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors held last night at Grosvenor House Mr Geoffrey Wright and Mr Tony Blackler were the

Queen Mary and Westfield College Professor Graham Zellick, Principal of Queen Mary and Westfield

cipal of Queen Mary and Westfield College. London University, and Sir Christopher France, chairman of council, presided at a guest night held yesterday at the college. Among others present were: Lord Justice Millett, Sir Robert Jennings, QC. Professor Sir Michael Thompson. Mr John Howe. Dr Anthony Julius, Mr Simon Keswick, M Citvier Polyre D'artor, Dr Michael Scholar, the Headmaster, Bancroft's School, Major-General T.P. Toyne Sewell and Mr Stanley Wright (college treasurer).

Royal Society Professor John Rowlinson, Phys-Professor John Rowlinson, Physical Secretary to the Royal Society, presided at a Royal Society Technology lecture delivered by Dr Michael Bagshaw, Head of Aviation Medical Services, British Airways, last night at 6 Carlton House Terrace. The Chief Medical Officer of the Civil Aviation Authority, the Director of General Medical Services, RAF, the Direc-tor of Health Services, British Airways and the Chief Inspector of Air Accidents, Air Accident Investigation branch, were present at a dinner held afterwards.

Eton dinner

The Rev R.D.F. Wild's The Rev R.D.F. Wild's old boys held a dinner last night at Boo-die's. Mr Wild, who died a year ago, was remembered as a toast to M'tutor's was drunk.

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YORK, PERSON, siets, itsee-scans & barnesons linguouse in floor tiles, Cobble setts, stone torogle, unsonty sevrice. Nee & internat del. Balley Neathail 01380 880039 (MIRE)

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FOR SALE

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. Aran Iglesia and Miss S.J. Newell The engagement is announced between Alfredo, son of Mr and

Mrs Francisco Aran Lopez, of Madrid, Spain, and Susannah Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Newell, of Sutton Courtenay, Oxfordshire. Mr J.D. Birchall

and Miss S.J.D. Cross The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Mark Birchall, of Wandsworth, and Sarah, daughter of the Rev John and Mrs Cross, of Kingston

Mr S.A. Brewer and Miss K.J. Porter

The engagement is announced between Simon Alastair, son of Mr and Mrs John Brewer, of Salconnie, Devon, and Kathryn Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Porter, of Dousland, Devon. Mr J.O. Ingvaldson and Miss R.A. Jackson

The engagement is announced between Jeffrey, son of Mr and Mrs Charles Ingvaldson, of Vancouver, Canada, and Rachel, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stuart Jackson, of Castle Cary, Somerset.

Mr W.B. Ramszy and Miss N.A. de Chair-The engagement is announced between William, son of Major General Charles and the Hon Mrs Ramsay, of Bughtrig, Berwick-shire, and Natasha, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Dudley de Chair, of Tulloch, Inverness-shire, and Mrs Edward Harding

Mr J.P.R. Wilcox and Miss A. Guglielmotti The engagement is announced between James Peregrine Rundle, eldest son of Mr David Wilcox, of Philleigh, Cornwall, and Mrs Martin Trowell, of West Hanney, Natural Frower, of West Frantier, Oxfordshire, and Alessandra, daughter of the late Signor Giuseppe Guglielmotti and of Signora Elina Cosentino, of Naples, Italy. and Miss H.V. Mills

The engagement is announced between James, second son of Major and Mrs Richard Hinds, of Sevenoaks, and Henrietta, yourgest daughter of the late Peter Mills and of Mrs Mills, of Linhook.

Mr J.F. Lithgov and Miss C.F. du Cane Wilkinson The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Sir William and Lady Lithgow, of Ormsary, Argyll, and Claire, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs. Nicholas du Cane Wilkinson, of

Croy, Inverness Mr A.G.P. Parsons and Miss J.F. Ross
The engagement is announced between Adam, twin son of Mr and Mrs Norman Parsons, of Chearsley, Buckinghamshire, and Jessica, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Ross, of North

Ascot, Berkshire. Mr S.R. Tarver and Miss D.H. Miller The engagement is amounced between Simon Ransom, younger son of Colonel and Mrs M.R. Tarver, of Perworth, West Sussex,

and Deborah Helen, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs W.D.F. Miller, of Huddersfield, West

Marriages

Mr P.D. Jenner and Miss J.A.D. Hargreaves The marriage took place on Octo-ber 4, 1996, between Mr Paul D. Jenner, eldest son of Mr and Mrs A.J. Jenner, of Croydon, and Miss Jill Alison: D. Hargreaves, eldest daughter of the late H.G. Har-greaves and of Mrs R.C. Hargreaves, of Toys Hill, Kent. Mr I.S. Steers and Mrs J.M. Campbell
The marriage took place quietly in

London, on Monday. November 18, 1996, of Ian Sydney Steers to Jean Margaret Campbell.

Gruesome pursuit digs up top prize

A MORBID taste for bones has made John Hunter the Archaeologist of the Year, the major inize at the British Archaeological Awards ceremony in Cardiff this week (Norman Hammond writes). The award was given for Professor Hunter's work in developing forensic archaeology in Britain. Hunter's work in developing forensic archaeology in Britain. This gruesome branch of a

runs gruesome branch of a profession dedicated to digging up bones and other people's dusthins, deals with the recently dead-Professor Hunter, head of archaeology at Burningham University, has argued for the use of the delicate techniques of of the delicate techniques of archaeological investigation to be applied to such cases as the Gloucester murders, instead of the more robust pick-and-shovel approach often employed by the police.

Among the other biennial awards, which were presented by Magnus Magnusson, the search

tion of a site.

The Archaeology Book of the Year was Jean Wilson's The Archaeology of Shakespeare, a study of the Elizabethan Theare and its remains, such as the Rose and Globe playhouses. ITV's Time Team took the Broadcast Award given by Channel 4, for its programme on the Tockenham site Two young archaeologists, Alice Bennet and Susan Westlake, were honoured for their posters promot-ing archaeology, and three-journalists; including Edward Owen of The Times, received Pres. Awards from British Gas-Transco for outstanding reporting.

Appointments

Latest appointments include: Field Marshal Lord Vincent of Coleshill to be Master Gunner, St James's Park, from today on the retirement of General Sir Martin Farndale.

Mr Richard George Bramwell McCombe, QC, to be Attorney-General of the Duchy of Lancaster and Attorney and Serjeant within the County Palatine of Lancaster in succession to Mr Justice Timothy Llovd.

Sir Anthony Termant to be chair-man of the Royal Academy Trust in succession to Mr John Raisman, who retires on December 6. Sir-Trevor Chinn to be deputy chair-

Mr Nigel Crisp, chief executive of the Oxford Radcliffe Hospital NHS Trust, to be regional director of the NHS Executive for the South

National Gallery. Mrs Margaret Bloom to be direc-tor of competition policy, Office of Pair Trading, from January 1 in

Thames Region from the new year.

Lady Juliet de Chair and Dr David

succession to Dr Martin Howe. who is retiring

University news Selwyn College Elected into a Fellowship: Graham

European Business School Lord Swaythling, Chairman of Rothmans International, is to be made an honorary professor of the European Business School.

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Acknowledge that the Lord is God; he made us and we are his, his own people, the flock which he shepherds. Fsalms 100; 3	I
BIRTHS	
MARTLEY - On 15th November in Kuala Lumpur, to Anne Buckingham and Christopher Hartley, a daughter, Samantha Jade Buckingham. HENRIET - On 15th November 1996, to Allison (née Thompson) and Edward, a son, James Peter, a brother to Bebocca. JEWSBURY - On 13th November 1996 at Queen Mary's Rochampton, to Gall (née Monks) and Mark, a son Robert Christopher Charles. MAYER - On October 21st, to	
Vaterie and Anton-Paul, a besutiful daughter, Sophia Alexandra. MAYO - To Charles and The Hon. Arabella Mayo, a daughter, Elizabeth Rose Anna, on 10th November. MOORE - On November 18th at The Fortland Hospital, to Pauline (ase Mansfield) and John, a son, lack MacLeod. SLATER - On November 17th at The Fortland Hospital to Latte (ase Menzies) and Simon - a daughter, Flora Clementine. TOVEY - On 13th November, to Juliet and Gareth, a daughter, Labelle Lucie. WAMA - On 16th November.	84
1996, to Diana (née	

RINGERS - Barbara Watford (née Smith, formerly of Leeds) died 19th November 1996, aged 72. Much loved wife of Arthur, mother of Susan and Hilary and grandmother of Rosa and Joseph Funeral Service at St John's Dicewell (Walves) John's Digswell, (Wolwyn Garden City) on Tuesday 26th November at 1.30 pm followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, please, donations for

DEATHS

BAMCROFT - On 19th Novamber 1996 Lord Ian Powell GCB, after a long fight, beloved husband, father and grandfather. Private family service. Memodal Service at a later day. Donations please to Trinity Hospica, 30 Claphan Common North Side, London 594 CSB.

DEATHS

BLACKFORD - Sheila peacefully at Pembury Hospital on 18th November 1996 aged 76 years. Baloved wife of Peter and mother of Tim, Chris, Jeremy and Patrick and much loved

creation. Family Howers only, please, donations for the kabet Hospice may be sent c/o Geo. W. Blow & Soms, Church Street, Welwyn, rei: (01438) 714686.

CAMPEGL - Alexander Colin Parton, Emeritus Professor University of Manchester, or November 19th pendetaling of home offers long Ulbane at home after a long illness.
Dearly loved by his wife
Elisabeth and his family.
Funeral at Holy Trinity
Church, Ascott under
Wychwood, 2 pm Totschy,
November 26th. Family
flowers only. CHRISTOPHER - Barbara (née de Selincourt) died de Selincourt) died peacefully on November 19th aged SS years. Wife of the late jack Christopher. Much loved by her sons Bryan me Robin and their wives Claudia and Merril. Adored Granny of Julian, Tracy, Simon, Jason, Chloe and Livy, Genar Genuny of Benjamin and infinitely dear to her many friends. Funeral on Monday 25th November at 11.30 am at the Kent & Sussex Crematorium, Tunbridge Wells. Family flowers only please but donations if desired to Langue of Friends, Queen Victoria Hospital. East Grinstead or Guide Dog for the Blind Enquiries to Medhurst Funeral Directors (01892) 770253.

COOK - Namey, on November 18th, peacefully at home at Radbourne. Derbyshire, a week before her 82nd hirthday, Dear wife of the late Toby Cook. Greatly loved by her children, June. Barbarn and Guy, her grandchildren, family and friends. Funeral at Hadbourne Parish Church at 2 pm on Tuesday, 26th November. Shaple flowers or donations. If preferred, to the British Red Cross. Enquiries to W. Jones and Son. Brailsford. Derbys. Tel. (01335) 360319.

GAMERY - On Sunday November 17th, suddenly but peacefully at home, John Denry loved husband of Jill, father of Carola and William, and grandfather (Farf) of seven. Funeral private Details of a celebration later. infedicit - pairs pencerally at the Chelsen and Westminster Hospital on November 1914. Loved mother of Supplen and M.J. We remember the good times at Finhomough food and the even better times at

HUTCHESSON - On November 19th, peacefully at home, Nancy, Much loved and softly missed by Annie, Sophie, Veronica, her family and many friends. Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church, Avington on Tuesday 26th November at 3pm. Florens to Jno. Steel & Son, Chesii House, Winchester. IRVING - Angala Unity died peacefully on 18th Kovetsber. Beloved mother of Diama and grandmother to James and Rebecca. All constitute to Michael Smy

enquiries to Mic! (01473) 271674.

JOHN - Rosemary A. (née Donald) at home in Prinson on Tuendry 19th November after a spicited barth. Wife of Jamie and mother of Alexandre and Henry. Always loving and always loved. Paneral at Prison Padis Church on Satunday 23rd November at 2 pm. Flowers to G. Mannings & Sous Ltd., Combe Down, Bath.

MARRIOTT - On November
18th in her 91st year,
Valerie (née Pridmore),
widow of Dick Marriott and
alster to Joan and Betty,
Funeral Service at Enry
(Sussex) Chusch at 10 am on
Tueeday November 26th
followed by committal at
The Chichester Cremeturium
at 11 am. Family flowers
only, Donations if desired to
Marie Carle Nurses, South
Rill, Storrington Road,
Thakeham, West Sussex
REZO 3EN. McKHWEY - Ew. Dr. Richard W.A. on Wednesday 20th November pescentilly at his home Esylemont, Melbourne 3094, Australia, after a long hattle with temer. Deeply repretted by his loving wife Margaret and family circle at house and abroad.

RAMSLAND - On 17th
November 1996 at Mr.
Alvernia Hospiral, Guildford,
Johan Fleming John aged
54. Loving husband of Sea
and father of Johan-James,
Benjamin and Micholas. A
private Puneral Service will
take place heat week with a
Memorial Service for friends
and colleagues to be
arranged at a later date.
Family Howers only and
donations in Hen to
MARC'S Line c'o Wessex
Cancer Treat, 11 Westwood
Boad, Southampton Sol7
10E. and The Cancer Beller
Macmillan Fund, 15-19
Seltten Street, London SW3
37Z. peacefully on 17th November, Bushand of the late Muriel (née Smalley) and the late Ethel (née Seeger). Father of John and Paul and grandfather of Angela, Robert, Karen and

GLDMAM - Frank who peased away on 16th November, lovingly renumbered by his wife Joan and daughter Engelia. Paneral Service on Monday 25th November at Many America Church. TRUSCOTT - Sthell Margaret (Betty) née Lyell, died peacefully at home on 18th November. Dearly loved wife of the late Dearls Horny Truscott GRE, T.D. Seloved Money 20th November at Holy Apostles Church, Windhester Street, Piralico at I pm. No flowers please, donations to RNLI c/o Cheises Puneral Directors, 260B Falham Road, SW10 mother of Roseman grandmother. The funera will be held at St Many Church, Arthur Road wintbedon on Wednesday 27th November at I pm. No flowers please but a donation in her memory sent to Made Curie Numes would be very much appreciated (Marie Curie Cancer Care, 28 Belgares Square, SWIX SQC or phone 0800 716 146). PERSEN - George Ernest on November 19th died at home bravely and with great digady. Fement Service at Ipswich Creastorium North Chapsel at 11.30 am on Friday 22nd November. No flowers please but any donations to Marie Curie Cancer Care, Suffelk Appeals Office, 20 Beach Road, Lowestoft NE32 1EA, tel: (01502) 537937.

MEMORIAL SERVICES CHURS - A Memorial Service for LO. Chubb C.M.C. will be held in the Crypt of St Paul's Cathedral on 13th Documber at 11.30 am. IN MEMORIAM -

PRIVATE POLMAY - Peter de Polmay, author, died in Paris on Kovember 21st, 1984. His wife, son, family and friends rumember him with love. A wass will be said in Saint-Nicolas-du-Chardonnet, in Pazis.

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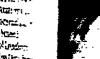
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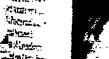










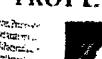


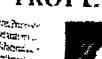


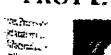


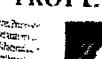


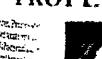


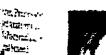




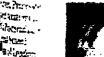


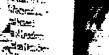




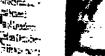








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19 19 1a

Lord Bancroft, GCB, Head of the Home Civil Service and Permanent Secretary to the Civil Service Department, 1978-81, died on November 19 aged 73. He was born on December 23, 1922

an Bancroft was one of the most able and distinguished civil servants of his generation, and his rise to be Head of the Home Civil Service was, if not effortless, then almost inevitable and certainly well merited. He served with great distinction first as director general of establishments and organisation and then as Permanent Secretary in the Department of the Environment. It was his misfortune that the last years of his time in Whitehall, as Permanent Secretary to the Civil Service Department and Head of the Home Civil Service, were overshadowed by the arrival of a Prime Minister determined upon a reduction in Civil Service numbers and sceptical about the value of a department which she viewed as being divorced from the realities of actual day-to-day administration. In that sense, he was one of the first though not the last - casualties of Margaret Thatcher's impatience with all institutions which she saw as being detached from the management of money and resources.

Ian Powell Bancroft was the son of Alfred Ernest Bancroft. He was educated at Coatham School, in Cleveland, and Balliol College, Oxford, of which he was a scholar (and latterly an honorary fellow). He served in the Rifle Brigade from 1942 to 1945, and joined the Civil Service in 1947. as one of the "reconstruction" entrants. He was posted to the Treasury as an assistant principal, and was quickly marked out as a "flyer" by being made-private secretary to Sir Henry Wilson Smith, then Second Secretary. He served under Sir William Armstrong in the private office o R. A. Butler when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer, and went with Butler, for whom he had a high regard, as his private secretary when he became Lord Privy Seal in December 1955. Spells in the Cabinet Office and later in the Treasury expenditure divisions were followed in 1964 by his becoming principal private secretary to the Chancel lor (first Reginald Maudling and then James Callaghan). He was promoted to

under-secretary in 1966 when only 43. He was serving on the managemen side of the Treasury when it was hived off to become the new Civil Service Department in 1968. Under William Armstrong as Permanent Secretary and Head of the

LORD BANCROFT

Home Civil Service, Bancroft took charge of the "machinery of government" division within the CSD. In that capacity he was much involved in the detailed preparations for setting up the giant departments, which were then in fashion, and particularly for the amalgamation of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of Public Building and Works into the mammoth Department of the Environment.

When the Heath Government in 1970 decided to go ahead with this huge new conglomerate ministry in Marsham. Street, Bancroft was appointed its director general of establishment and organisation on promotion to deputy secretary. The central organisations of three departments with different traditions had to be welded together. Cherished ways of working had to be challenged and discarded. Some saw their personal prospects lessened. The task of managing the amalgamation was complex and burdensome. Nonetheless, Bancroft had by 1972 establishe the structure of an integrated department, in which land use planning and transport planning were under single ministerial direction, as had long been advocated. Responsibility for government buildings and accommoda-tion was put into the Property Services Agency, which remained part of the DoE. The DoE was thus established as an effectively welded entity.

That task successfully accomplished, it was obvious that Bancroft was destined soon to head a department of his own. Towards the end of 1972 he moved in his existing rank to Customs and Excise, the head of which was shortly to retire. It was, however, a time of unrest in the Civil Servic over the Heath Government's pay pause - troubles in which Customs were much concerned — and the preoccupation of William Armstrong with advising the Prime Minister on counter-inflation policv left something of a hiatus at the top of the Civil Service Department.

It was, therefore, decided to create a second Permanent Secretary post in the department, to be responsible for running it on a day-to-day basis: and Bancroft was promoted to fill the position. In it he set himself the task of trying to remove the causes of the ill-feeling that had grown up among civil servants, and had given rise to a widespread view that only by militant action would management be made to take notice of grievances over pay and conditions.

At the end of 1975 Bancroft returned to



succeed Sir David Serpell as its Permanent Secretary. Relations between central and local government were at a difficult juncture. The Layfield report had recommended far-reaching changes in local government finance in the direction of greater financial independence. But local authorities were demonstrating an increased propensity to overspend their agreed public expenditure allocations, and that brought with it suggestions of a need for greater, not less, central government control of local spending.

Departmental expenditure also came under pressure as part of the public expenditure cuts from 1976 onwards. Bancroft quickly established good relationships with the leaders of local governthe Department of the Environment to ment and the building industry (which

also came within the DoE's purview); and his close acquaintance with the heads of other departments concerned in varying aspects of local government, built up over years of working with them in Whitehall, was of great help in co-ordinating, from the DoE, the general direction of policy on

local government. The decision of the new Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, to restore responsibilities for transport once again to a separate department unstitched part of the amalgamation which Bancroft had worked so effectively to achieve. He sought to carry through the separation in a way that retained as many of the benefits of the amalgamation as possible, and particularly the preservation of common staff lists, and a common staffing organisation. The fact that the divorce was accomplished with minimal friction owed much to his direction and to his handling of relationships with the staff affected, and with the staff associations.

When the time came for Sir Douglas Allen (now Lord Croham) to retire as Permanent Secretary to the Civil Service Department and Head of the Home Civil Service towards the end of 1977, Bancroft was obviously a strong candidate to succeed him. His appointment was widely expected and warmly welcomed by his peers and colleagues. It seemed to be the crowning achievement of his career in the public service.

His last two years in office, from 1979 to 1981, were not, however, comfortable. Mrs Thatcher's declared determination to improve the efficiency of the Civil Service was inevitably seen as an implicit criticism of existing inefficiency, something which Bancroft, as Head of the Home Civil Service, felt to be much exaggerated and unfair. He was not opposed to a reduction in the size of the Civil Service, and ready to play his part in achieving it but he felt that a published commitment to a target reduction of 20 per cent over five years, without clear and detailed proposals as to how this was to be achieved, was unsatisfactory and bad for Civil Service morale. The Prime Minister's scepticism about the effectiveness and value of the CSD, together with her appointment of a a new efficiency unit, headed by an "outsider" (Sir Derek Rayner from Marks & Spencer) and not under the umbrella of the CSD, added to the uneasiness of the relationship between the Prime Minister and the Head of the Home Civil Service. Moreover, Bancroft himself was not in the best of health at this

The Prime Minister's decision in November 1981 to abolish the CSD, to divide its functions between the Treasury and a new Manpower and Personnel Office within the Cabinet Office, and to designate the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury and the Secretary of the Cabinet as Joint Heads of the Home Civil Service, meant for Bancroft a premature and unhappy end to his distinguished career as a public servant. He accepted the decision with dignity, and characteristically with more concern for its implications for others than with those for himself.

He had been appointed CB in 1971, created KCB in 1975 and advanced to GCB in 1979; the overall distinction of his Whitehall career was recognised by his being made a life peer in 1982 - here he

was luckier than some later Heads of the Diplomatic Service. In retirement he took on a number of appointments, some commercial (as with his deputy chairmanship of Sun Life) but mostly of a public service or charitable nature.

He used every opportunity presented to him as a member of the House of Lords to defend the values of public service and the good name of the Civil Service with the same tenacity and determination that he had shown while in government. Earlier this year he led an attempt in the House of Lords to stop the Government from privatising the Recruitment and Assessment Services, which culminated in a vote on the issue and a defeat for the Government by a sizeable majority. Bancroft was not the only person to be annoyed when the Government went ahead with its plans regardless, apparently on the principle, Hoc volo, sic jubeo; sit pro ratione voluntas ("This I wish, this I

order; don't ask me why").
As an official, lan Bancroft was disciplined and invariably self-controlled; skilful in sizing up a difficult problem quickly; deft and expeditious in the dispatch of business; and effective in negotiation. He was meticulous in planning the handling of a problem so as to make sure that it was resolved in the most effective way, and so as to minimise the scope for the unexpected.

As a man, he was unfailingly approachable, courteous, likeable and understanding: great fun to work with; sensitive more than most to the effects of outside changes on an individual's prospects and hopes, and anxious to soothe as far as possible: yet with an iron hand in the velvet glove where the public interest, as he saw it, so demanded.

He had a major internal operation earlier in his career, and another not long before he retired. Although they must have taken their toll, he nevertheless contrived to stand up to pressure over the years without wilting, and both before and after his retirement took upon himself a daunting load of commitments.

While an undergraduate he had some poems published (though he was subsequently said not to recognise quotations from them). Watching, and following, cricket were both keen interests.

In 1950 he married Jean, the daughter of David Richard Swaine, who survives him, together with two sons and a daughter. He was sustained throughout his career by the devoted support of his wife, a happy family life and the unstinted respect and affection of his colleagues and

PROFESSOR VIC HARRISON

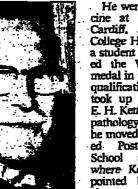
Vic Harrison, Professor of Morbid Anatomy at the Royal Postgradua Medical School. University of London, 1955-72, died on October 24 aged 89. He was born on January 21, 1907.

VIC HARRISON was one of the most distinguished pathologists of his generation. As Professor of Morbid Anatomy at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School he contributed to every aspect of the life of the school and the associated Hammersmith Hospital: the clinical care of patients, postgraduate medical education and research. Collaboration with laboratory-based and clinical colleagues came naturally to him, making his expertise in morbid anatomy and histology freely available to anyone with a problem to which it was relevant.

In research much of his work was collaborative. He worked on dust diseases of the lung with Earl King, and on pulmonary vascular diseases of the lung with Paul Wood, John Goodwin and Robert



Steiner. Histopathologists from all over the world were trained in his department, and he made essential contributions to the educational activities of all departments of the school, notably in the prepara-tion of material for clinico-



pathological conferences. Charles Victor Harrison was educated at Dean Close School, Cheltenham, where he made his mark not only academically, but also as a

cine at University College. Cardiff, and at University College Hospital, London. As a student he had been awarded the Willie Seager gold medal in pathology and, after qualification, he immediately took up an appointment in E. H. Kettle's department of pathology in Cardiff. In 1935. he moved to the newly-found-Postgraduate Medical School at Hammersmith, where Kettle had been appointed Professor of Path-

ln 1939 Harrison became senior lecturer in pathology in Liverpool, where he spent the war years, doing his share of fire-watching, but continuing research activities, notably on the rhesus factor in obstetrics. He returned to the Postgraduare Medical School of London in Hammersmith in 1946 as a Reader, and in 1955 was appointed Professor of Morbid Anatomy.

In 1963 Harrison became a founder Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists, and in 1967 he was elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Coll-

e of Physicians. In 1972 the University of Wales awarded him a DSc, honoris causa. When he retired from the

chair at the Royal Postgradu-ate Medical School in 1972. Harrison applied for the chair of Pathology at the new University of Ife. Nigeria. Here he spent three years setting up a department, training a new generation of students and selecting and preparing his successor. On his return to England he continued for several years acting as a shortterm locum pathologist in hospitals in the Home Coun-

In retirement he settled down to enjoy his extra-medical interests. He was an excellent carpenter and a keen small boat sailor. His most ambitious project had been to build a 10 ft sailing dinghy which plied the Thames at weekends for many years. He also took an active interest in history, gardening and ornithology.

Harrison's wife, Olga, whom he married in 1937, died last year. He is survived by a son.

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MARUTHA MENUHIN

Marutha Menuhin, mother of Lord Menuhin died on November 15 aged 100. She was born on January 7, 1896.

THE remarkable life of Lord Menuhin has been guided and shaped by two equally remarkable woman. One is the great violinist's formidably protective second wife, Diana, whom he married in 1947; the other, whose influence persisted right up to her death last week, was his extraordinary mother, Marutha.

Yehudi Menuhin has described his mother as "unerring in purpose, unhesitating and even ruthless in means". Her discipline and dedication were undoubtedly decisive in nurturing and developing his precocious talent. But there was a price to be paid for the devotion of so exacting a matriarch, and Menuhin's was a childhood with few of the conventional emotional

Menuhin and his two sisters - all three became professional musicians — were brought up strictly and in isolation. without toys and playthings", and never went to school. To Marutha Menuhin, self-control was all-important. She was, according to her son, "a passionate and deeply feeling woman, but totally unsentimental. There was no hugging. She took pride in standing pain." He never saw

Lord Menuhin looks back on his unorthodox childhood with warmth and affection, and would never hear a word against his mother. His younger sister, the pianist Yaltah, has less fond memories of growing up. We were isolated as we travelled around the world with Yehudi," she once complained. "We were not

The Menuhins: Marutha (centre) with Yaltah, Yehudi, Hepzibah and Moshe

living the life of childhood at all. Trying to live in public when you're suffering privately is difficult."

In Yaltah's recollection, her mother was a tyrant, responsible not only for neglecting her children but for breaking up her son's first marriage. Those accusations brought Marutha Menuhin unwelcome public attention when they formed part of a controversial account of Yehudi Menuhin's life by the film-maker Tony Palmer, presented first on television in 1990 and then as a book which its subject tried to ban. Menuhin found the charges incom-prehensible and unfair.

Marutha Menuhin's origins were mysterious, and she liked to make them more mysterious still. She was born Marutha Sher in the Crimea. of a family belonging to the tiny Karaite sect. Jewish Scriptural fundamendalists who were reputed to have converted from Christianity. Her blonde hair and striking blue eyes, pointed, it was suggested, to Tartar or Circassian blood - as, perhaps, did a streak of fierceness and a

lifelong fascination with knives. The only one of seven sib-

lings to survive beyond infancy, she was sent with her mother to Palestine in 1904, to escape the pogroms in Russia. Her father stayed behind, and their separation became permanent. It was in Palestine that she encountered her future husband, Moshe Mnuchin, but it was only later, in 1914, that they married, after meeting again in America by chance.

Between leaving Jaffa and arriving in Elizabeth, New Jersey, Marutha had added English and French to her original Russian, Yiddish and Hebrew. She was later to learn German. Italian and Spanish as well, and family conversations might be in any

or all of those languages. After settling in America Moshe Menuhin and his wife earned a living as teachers; he rose to be head of the Jewish education board in San Francisco, with her as his assistant. But when the extraordinary talents of their children became apparent, the family

of the three young prodigies.

Moshe Menuhin died in 1988, four years after the family's elder daughter. Hepzibah. Marutha's longevity may have owed something to physical toughness and a rigorous regime. As a young woman she would sleep in her

embarked on a nomadic life

wholly dedicated to the careers

corset to preserve her 22-inch waist. She treated cuts with caustic soda. It was her habit to bathe in ice-cold water mixed with grapefruit skins and a smelly Russian drink called Kvass. She also brewed her own explosive version of Koumiss, a Crimean concoction of mare's milk and, in her daughter-in-law's words. "God alone knows what else".

But what really kept her going was probably her dedication to the cause she held most dear. Her own verdict on her life, delivered in her sale. reluctant contribution to Tony Palmer's film, was straightforward: "I'm grateful you're my son." she told Lord Menuhin.

That covers everything." Her son and younger daughter survive her.

COURT THEATRE. "THE DOCTOR'S DILEMMA." A Tragedy in Four Acts and an Epilogue By BERNARD SHAW.

not anticipated by Moliere: Leo

ON THIS DAY

November 21, 1906 型型油油

The Doctor's Dilemma was Shaw's reply to the critic William Archer who declared that the playwright could not write a death scene. The dying words of Dubedat - "I believe in Rembrandt, Michelangelo and Velasquez were held by some critics as blasphemous.

Schutzmacher, who has made a fortune in the East End by selling advice and drugs for sixpences, under the sign "cure guaranteed", and Dr. Blenkinsop, a hard-working general prac-titioner who has never succeeded in making both ends meet and begs fashionable consultants for their east-off frockcoats. All these people display their several humours in a Queen Anne-street consulting room, whither they have come to congrabulate Sir Colenso Ridgeon on his Birthday

From Queen Anne-street their line of march takes them to the "Star and Garter" at Richmond. and thence to Louis Duhedar's studio But who is Louis Duhedar? ... Louis Duhedar is an artist

with a tuberculous lung ... Jeanifer Dubedat. Louis's wife, has sought out Sir Colenso Ridgeon and, with great difficulty, secured his promise to undertake the case. When Ridgeon consents it is really out of his profound (but entirely discreet) iration for Jennifer, an idealist from Cornwall, a child of nature, to whom belief in Louis' genius is a religion . . .

And now Sir Colenso is in a worse dilemma than ever. For he finds that his poor confrere, the morally irreproachable Dr. Blenkinson, has also a turberculous lune. Which is he to save? The good Blenkinsop, who is a social failure, or the bad Dubedat who paints good pictures? Good men are fairly common, he argues. Good pictures very rare. And he decides in favour of Dubedat.

But now there is a fresh complication. Jennifer Dubedat's whole life consists in the worship of Louis. If Louis ceased to be her hero, she would commit suicide — has, indeed, already marked out a certain cliff in Cornwall for that purpose. To prolong Dubedar's life is to ensure that his wife shall souner or later find him out, and so, have her religion shanered and lose her own life into the bargain. Therefore, for Jennifer's take jeven although to the vulgar mind, it may look like murdering a man in the hope of marrying his widowi Sir Colenso must let Louis die.

Rather hard that of a lad should be killed because his wife has too high an opinion of homfew of us are in that predicament ...

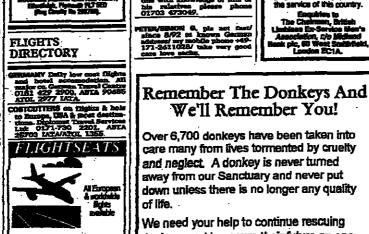
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by BERNARD STIAM.

Plus ca change plus c'est la meme chose. That, by the way, is the criticism which, in effect, the oldest of Mr. Shaw's physicians, Sir Patrick Cullen, is always applying to the new-fangled discoveries of his fellow-practitioners. He has seen all these movelines before; they have their law of periodicity and proposition of the plant of periodicity and proposition of the plant of periodicity and periodicity an

law of periodicity — say, once in every 15 years — and nothing is altered but the names. Sir Patrick, and nothing is altered but the names. Sir Patrick, who stands for bluff cynical comment on scientific affectation, heads a group of half-adocen medical types. There is Sir Ralph Bloomfield Bonnington – familiarly known as "old B.B." – Court physician (much fiked by what he invariably calls "the Family") and platitudinously pompous bungler. He is, as you see, an entirely Molieresque figure. Good easy man, he does not know the difference between a vaccine and an anti-tovin, and is all for stimulating the phaspoortes. There is Sir Colenso vaccine and an animount and is a fer stimulating the phagocytes. There is Sir Colenso Ridgeon — just knighted as the curtain rises for his great "opsonin" discovery — who is all for buttering the bacilli. There is the great surgeon. Cuter Walpole, who in every human ill sees blood-poisoning and is all for cutting out the nuclions see. Physic he blundy characterises as ror; the physicians, in return, dismiss surgery as mere "manual labour". There remain two

NEWS

Tunnel stays shut in safety row

■ The Channel Tunnel is to remain closed indefinitely after Eurotunnel representatives walked out of talks with its safety

SNCF, the French rail operator, ruled out any resumption of services before Monday, and if the safety authority insists that the tunnel is fully repaired before any trains run, it could be closed until the new year

Police shoot supermarket gunman

A disturbed knifeman who went on the rampage in a busy city supermarket was shot dead by a police marksman last night. The 40-year-old-man, brandishing a knife and a pair of handcuffs, ran into the Co-op shop in Washwood Heath Road, Ward End, Birmingham, after an argument with a woman, believed to be his mother, at a house near by Page I

EMU debate

The Government faced mounting pressure to give way to MPs and allow a debate on the single currency after suffering an embarrassing defeatPage I

Civil Service dispute

Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet secretary, became embroiled in a political row as he insisted that the impartiality of civil servants had not been compromised by a Tory document on Labour spending plans.

Cotswold ceasefire A High Court judge has called for

a ceasefire to a costly ten-year dispute over a stone wall dividing two medieval homes in a Cots-

Crash barrier

Westminster Council yesterday banned the controversial film Crash from its cinemas unless the British Board of Film Censors gives it an 18-certificate and insists on cuts... .Page 5

Education dispute

Fresh controversy broke out over A more conciliatory Newt Gingeducation standards, as an international study showed English teenagers sliding down the world league in mathematics but improving in science Page 6

Roy Hattersley was fined after his "over-friendly" Buster, a Staffordshire bull terrier, inflicted fatal injuries on a goose......Page 9

Hattersley's dog

Lawlessness warning

The justice system for young offenders is condemned by the Audit Commission which says that the country faces a further increase in lawlessness over the next decade Page 11

Library attack The new British Library is a model to the nation - on how not to

manage a major building project, MPs reported.....

Zaire chaos

Eastern Zaire descended further into chaos as a UN agency said 100,000 Rwandan Hutu refugees were moving north from Bukavu to Goma, while rebels continued their advance towards

Clinton Pacific pledge At the start of his two-week tour of Asia and Australia, President

Clinton warned China against international bullying and pledged that the Americans were in the Pacific to stay Page 16 G ingrich election

rich gained unanimous support for his re-election as America's

first two-term House Speaker since the 1920s Page 17 Gunman 'not insane' Tasmania's Supreme Court was

told that the 29-year-old gunman accused of killing 35 people was not criminally insane but had a mental age of ten....

Angler catches record with 98lb fish A catfish seven feet long and weighing 98lbs, a fish without precedent in the annals of British angling, has been caught from an Essex lake. It was taken by Steve Bond from Oak Lodge, a two-acre water at Rayleigh. The fish was half as heavy again as the next biggest freshwater fish caught in Britain, a 64lb salmon taken by Georgina Ballantine in 1922.......Page I



For the first time since his heart bypass operation President Yeltsin was shown on Russian television yesterday. He was enjoying an outing in the grounds of Moscow's Central Clinical Hospital with his wife, Naina, and a granddaughter. Page 19

BUSINESS

Economy: Shop sales bounced back last month after a dip in September, according to official figures. The annual rise went up to 4.1 per cent in October from 3.6 per cent in September

Mortgages: The revival in the housing market continued last month with a 19 rise in in net advances on mortgage money by building societiesPage 27

Granada: The leisure group that acquired Forte earlier this year raised pre-tax profits 37 per cent to £480 million in the year to endPage *2*7 September

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 15.3 to 3962.8. Sterling's index fell from 92.3 to 92.0 after a rise from \$1.6753 to \$1.6768 but a fall from DM2.5173 to DM2.5110 Page 30

Football: David Seaman, the Arsenal goalkeeper, could be out for up to a month after cracking three ribs during the match against Manchester United Page 48

Cricket: To the relief of all Austratia, and the profound regret of West Indies' batsmen, Shane Warne is fit to resume his Test career after a hand operation Page 50 Rugby league: The Super League

has launched a championship featuring the 12 European and ten Australasian clubs. It will be played between June and October next year... Page 48

Tennis: Andre Agassi was booed off court after losing his opening match to Pete Sampras 6-2, 6-1 in the ATP championship finals in .. Page 49

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

Prince's new album,

by David Sinclair

SPORT

Lynne Truss

stands up for

Ruud Gullit

Emancipation, and all

the top CDs, reviewed

Kicking & Screaming:

■ POP

Stient acream: Lon Chanev is re-

stored to his hideous best for Friday's Festival Hall screening of the 1925 film The Phantom of the Opera, with music written and conducted by Carl DavisPage 36 Brown study: Great music and Miranda Richardson's acting fail to lift Robert Altman's jazz-andcrime movie Kansas City .. Page 37

Making tracks: Last year's most controversial film, Trainspotting, adapted from Irving Welsh's novel of junkie lowlife, gets the boxed-set video treatment...Page 38

Soldier, soldler: The ENO triumphantly brings to the Coliseum stage Die Soldaten, the most important German opera since Berg's Lulu - and reputedly the noisiest opera ever written......Page 39

Blow, an eccentric English aristocrat, become one of the most influential fashion people?...... Page 21 Continent cut off: Libby Purves crossed the Channel on the day Britain became an island .. Page 21 Dr Thomas Stuttaford describes symptoms of Parkinson's Disease: troubles with tattoos and how stress can protect women... Page 20

All the arts: Roy Strong on Sir Frederick Ashton; the frisson of cookery books; Peter Ackroyd on Blake and Burroughs, Pages 40, 41

All on board: The cruise, once only

for the rich, is increasingly becoming a bargainPage 43

Working it out: League tables help you to assess how independent and state schools measure up . Page 44 Added value: John O'Leary on paying for education Page 44

Fidel Castro, seeming more like an orthodox Pope than the leader of a revolution, probably hopes to use the Vatican's goodwill. But his visit to the Holy See could generate a momentum that carries Cuba to-

Preview: Female rugby: Women At Play (Channel 4, 8pm). Review: Lynne Truss suffers for Nigel Hawthorne's surgeon

Bomb scare

By attacking in such detail and so early, by using bombardment rather than blitzicrieg, the Tories may, like the Great War generals, be giving their opponents time to strengthen their defences. Page 23

Madness in Minsk

Belarus was falling far behind other former communist countries when it elected Aleksandr Lukashenko in 1994. Since then its slide has been precipitous ____. Page 23

Citizen army President Chirac seeks to strengthen the glue which holds society together. Yet France promotes supra-national government which weakens the most and solid form of

government in existence, national government.

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

There is a geography of reputation. Albert Reynolds has his reputation largely in Ireland, where they know him, not in England, where he is simply a foreign politician. The lesson of the Reynolds case is that there is no call for foreign statesmen to vindicate their politics in our law courts.....Page 22 **CHRIS WOODHEAD**

What more can we do to improve

the prospects of inner-city children? We need first to move on from our current preoccupation with sanctions to consider how bad behaviour can be avoided Page 22 JOHN BRYANT

Advertising aimed at the claret-

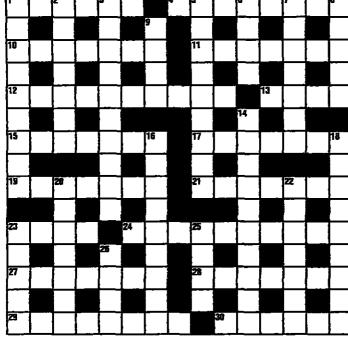
drinking classes with the expensive season tickets typifies the changes that have taken place in the great British football crowd ____ Page 46 PETER RIDDELL

Without a continued search for savings in existing programmes, a Labour Government would find it impossible to prevent a rise in the overall burden of taxes Page 12

Lord Bancroft, head of the Home Civil Service; Marutha Menuhin, mother of Lord Menuhin .. Page 25

Channel Tunnel fire; Britain's pubs wards liberty - El Pais, Madrid . and brewers ...

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,331



ACROSS

- I Cries of excitement from women's steel bands (6).
- 4 Craving an analgesic by midnight
- 10 Deadlock that's broken by politician meeting fool (7). 11 Outdoors without a sort of shirt.
- perhaps it's halmy (7). 12 Place where one has to drive
- absolutely soberly (10). 13 Headlight a new driver's showing
- inside small building (4). 15 Sort of coffee for making a shake
- 17 She makes entrance to house. putting key in a lock (7).
- 19 Hide from gasbag endlessly (7). 21 Note about suspicious marks in
- plant (7). 23 Bird used in humble pie in US?
- (4). Solution to Puzzle No 20,330
- BENTRE OPPOSE BAODRUX MENTOELNERTIA DSGMRC ORT HAIMENT TAU AS CLOTHCAP SKIE NASTUEST

- 24 Composing music for children
- 27 Choctaws and Mohawks appear
- in this entertainment (3-4). 28 Bishop's staff making many more
- 29 A look like this kills (8). 30 Familiar member of society (6).

hopeful (7).

- I Rubbish reported on track that's ruined by corporation (9). 2 Tyrannise work-force (7). 3 Minister has to wed in country
- style (10) 5 Girls' game in northern buffet dance (5.4). 6 Shooting this in US gun club (4).
- 7 Send to Coventry one so tardy (7). 8 Great enjoyment, tucking into asparagus tops (5).
- 9 Cheese provided by 6, thanks (4). 14 After bolting, locking it is of little use (6-4). 16 High social position of PRA? (3.6). 18 Bowled over, lost one's footing (9).
- 20 Wild flower absorbing nitrogen 22 Beastly chap having one over the
- 23 Mount getting caught on a branch
- 25 Pack dress (4). 26 Man previously in charge of meeting I ran (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 52

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Sun reses 7.29 cm Moon sets 2.47 ecr Full moon November 25 London 4-54 cm to 7-31 cm Bristol 4-14 pm to 7-40 cm Edinburgh 3-55 pm to 8-34 cm

☐ General: England and Wales will have a frosty start, it will be dry and sunny in many places but coestal places exposed to the north will have sleet or hail shower

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have showers of sleet, snow or hail. Frost is expected Lendon, SE England, E Angila E England: frost, some showers in the east but mainty dry with surny spells. Wind northerly, swinging west-erly mainly moderate. Cold. Max 6C

☐ Central S England, E Midlands, W Midlands, Channel Isles, Centrail N: early frost then dry with sunny spells Wind northwesterly moderate turning westerly. Cold. Max 6C (43F). ☐ SW England, S Wales, N Wales,

15 089 25 004

NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: irost then surny spells and

et or hail showers, snow on higher ground. Wind northwesterly moderate to fresh. Cold. Mex 6C (43F). ☐ NE England, Borders, Edin-burgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Censpells broken by hail or snow showers. Wind northwesterly mod modcrate to fresh. Cold. Max 5C (41F).

I) Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: early frost, frequent hail or snow showers. Wind northwesterly moderate to fresh. Cold. Max 5C (41F).

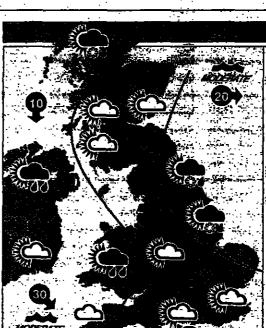
Outlook wintry showers and

widespread frost. AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

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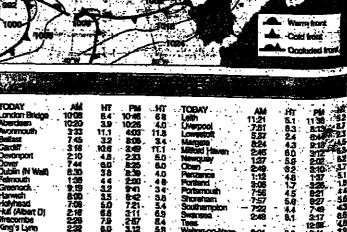
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Orizzie Overcast

Hail Snow Temperat (Celsius)



Cro Yesterday: Highest day temp: Falmouth, Commell, 10C (60F); tower day mati: Spadesdem, Cuntrills, OC (32F); highest rainfalt: St Layugen, Commell, 122m; highest sunshinat Glesgow, 5.7hr.

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William . Cloudy

Rain Showers Sleet and 🚍 Lightning

Changes to chart below from noon; Low M will drift north across Scandinavis and fill. Low N should track southeast into the Mediterranean and fill.

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INSIDE



ARTS

Altman's Kansas City and the week's other new films **PAGES 36-39**



EDUCATION

Where primary-age pupils get the best results **PAGE 44**



SPORT

Warne's return helps to shift balance of power **PAGES 46-52**

TELEVISION AND **RADIO PAGES**

50, 51

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21 1996

Tecs braced for Budget cut in youth training funds

BY PHILIP BASSETT.

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancel-

Rumours of cuts in the Tecs' funding have been circulating among training leaders for some time. Based on leaked information from sources close to the Cabinet,

YT, the Government's main programme for school leavers, offers vocational training to 16- and 17-year-olds to the equivalent of GCSE standard. Currently 263,500 young people are on YT, and with Modern Apprenticeships, the programme with which it is linked, costs £669

Even though overall unemployployment among young people

believe that cuts on such a scale in what they claim is now a successful programme will provoke strong opposition from business, training providers and the opposition.

Today, Gillian Shephard, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, will publish the Government's latest strategic guidance document for Tecs, called Tecs Beyond 2000, which in effect is a five-year plan on what the Government sees as their future tasks.

The document will strongly emphasise the need for Tecs and local authorities to work together at local level towards local economic development. It will set out the rationalisation of business services that Tecs help to provide through

the BLs are the "retail arm" of the organisations, which manage their funding, including Tecs.

Chris Humphries, the Tec National Council policy director, said: Young people are clearly opting for YT and Modern Apprenticeships as their learning route of choice."

Tecs also said that YT was showing "significant" quality improvements, moving away from what they admitted was its earlier reputation as a programme offering low-level skills. The organisation said that in 1995-96, 82 per cent of all

participants were at NVQ Level 2 and above - equivalent to GCSE compared with 37 per cent in in 1991.

Sir Garry Johnson, Tec National Council chairman, who will join Mrs Shephard in announcing the new guidance, strongly defended YT, saying: "Government figures show that more than 84 per cent of young people who complete YT either get a job, or go on to continuing full-time education."

With youth unemployment still high, Sir Garry added, "YT offers a real beacon

and to a "world class toolbox"

of skills that will help it to develop its existing products.

Darwin works on an earlier

stage of the drug development

process, identifying the genes

responsible for diseases. It

also has expertise in molecular

biology and combinatorial

chemistry. Chiroscience hopes

that Darwin will enable it to

improve its MMP inhibitors,

an important class of arthritis

Dr Padfield said: "It really is

a case of 1 plus 1 making so much more." He said Mr

Gates took part in the merger talks, and added: "He is very,

very keen on [Darwin's]

pay for Darwin - the exact

number will depend on its

average share price in the first

two weeks of December. Yes-

terday Chiroscience's shares

chief scientific officer, will

become an executive director

of Chiroscience. Ronald Cape,

co-founder and chairman of

Darwin, will also join the

and cancer drugs.

Chiroscience

rose 10p to 358½ p.

science."

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET FTSE 100 55%%* 100"52* 6.45%* LORDON MONEY

Tokyo close Yen 111.17

NORTH SEA OIL GOLD

London close..... \$379.15 (\$378.45)

Power cut

National Power, the generator, suffered a 24 per cent fall in pre-tax profits months to the end of September, partly because of a £57 million charge over the failed bid for Southern Electric. A 20 per cent fall in output is expected. Page 28

David Galas, Darwin's Racing ahead

British car production rose 39 per cent in October thanks to a surge in exports and a steady home market. Page 32

INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

lor of the Exchequer, is expected to cut the main government training programme for young people in next week's Budget by up to 20 per cent. Training and Enterprise Councils are bracing themselves for cuts in their funding.

Tec leaders believe that cuts of between 10 per cent and 15 per cent, and perhaps as much as 20 per cent, will be announced in the Budget.

ment is continuing to fall, unem-

the Government's Business Links network, and will seek to foster further mergers between Tecs and chambers of commerce, which Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister, is understood to be pressing for particularly.

The guidance will also attempt to

resolve some of the local rivalries between chambers, Tecs and Business Links by making it clear that **Bill Gates gets**

3% stake in

Chiroscience

By Paul Durman

BILL GATES, the founder

and chairman of Microsoft,

is to take a 3 per cent stake in Chiroscience as part of the

biotechnology company's

\$120 million acquisition of

Darwin Molecular Corpora-

tion, an American genetic

engineering firm.

Mr Gates and Paul Allen,

Microsoft's co-founder, each

own 14 per cent of Darwin,

which like Microsoft is

based in Seattle. The all-

share deal, announced yes-

terday, will give Mr Gates.

who is a director of Darwin.

a holding of a little more

than 3 per cent in the

Chiroscience is one of

Britain's largest biotech

stock market at nearly £300

million. Its first drug, a

painkiller, has just been

launched in Spain, but

Chiroscience is working on a

local anaesthetic and cancer

drugs that are potentially

John Padfield, chief execu-

tive of Chiroscience, said the

deal with Darwin would

give the company access to

many new drug candidates,

more important.

Chiroscience equity.

Rate and Budget pressures for Clarke

By Janet Bush and Robert Miller

KENNETH CLARKE, the Chancellor, came under furresist a giveaway Budget and consider further increases in interest rates after figures suggesting considerable eco-

nomic buoyancy.

The last batch of key economic statistics before next Tuesday's Budget included strong bank and building society lending, a surge in money supply, a new record for car production and another healthy rise in high street spending.

In the City, stocks and lears that Mr Clarke will be forced to raise interest rates again, under pressure from the Bank of England. The next meeting on rates is on Decem-

The Office for National Statistics said that retail sales rose 0.4 per cent in October. reversing the 0.3 per cent drop recorded in September. These figures were in line with City forecasts and confirmed that consumer spending is robust. However, there was worry-

ing news for the City in the shape of a 1.1 per cent rise in the M4 measure of broad money supply in October. Annual growth rose to 10.3 per cent from 9.9 per cent in September. The measure has now been outside the Government's 3 to 9 per cent monitoring range for a year. Although the Treasury has not appeared to take much notice of strong growth in M4, the Bank of England will be concerned. he main component boost-

ing M4 was a huge £7.4 billion jump in bank and building suciety lending, which compared with a much smaller. increase of £3.7 billion in September, it may well be that lending was boosted by companies borrowing to finance corporation tax repayments. were particularly strong in October. However, other lending figures yestersuggested across the board and genuine strength in

Separate figures from the British Bankers' Association showed that lending by the main British banking groups

rose £3.07 billion in October, compared with an increase of The BBA said that mortgage lending and consumer credit were both strong, but also that there was now a greater and more widespread appente for finance within industry.

The Building Societies Asso-ciation said net mortgage advances in October were £1.3 billion, compared with £1.1 billion in September, while approvals were up sharply at £3.9 billion, compared with £3.5 billion. Gross advances rose £324 million to £3.8

Adrian Coles, director-general of the BSA, said new lending to first-time buyers and people trading up was much higher than at the start of the year. However, he added that, while the recovery soundly based, the 0.25 per cent rise in base rates at the end of October, along with the approaching Budget, may have introduced some uncertainty into the market, which could affect lending in the next month or so.

The Chancellor's overriding aim in his Budget next week should therefore be for economic stability," he said.

The BSA also reported an inflow of savers' funds of £928 million in October, compared with £512 million in September. It suggested that fears of a stock market "correction" may have driven would-be equity investors back to the haven of society savings

accounts Mr Coles noted that there was usually an up-turn in savings at this time of year, as people begun to save for Christmas, but that October's inflow was more than twice as much as in the previous month and the highest since

September last year. He said: "Societies' success may reflect investors' caution over personal equity plans after widespread comment about the possibility of share prices falling, but it is also related to the attractive interest rates available on many building society products."

UK production of cars accelerated 39.3 per cent last month to record its highest October total. The figure for October was 179,963, compared with 129 192 in October 1995.



Gerry Robinson rejected calls for a demerger of Granada's television side

Granada impresses City with handling of Forte

By Alasdair Murray

A YEAR on from the launch of its bid battle for Forte, Granada, the media and hotels company, impressed the City yesterday by fulfilling its promises and delivering a 37 per cent increase in full-year profits, before tax and. exceptionals, to £480 million.

At the time of the £3.9 billion bid, Granada, which now controls businesses ranging from Happy Eaters to Coro-nation Street, set itself a profit target of an extra E100 million from the Forte businesses by the end of 1997.

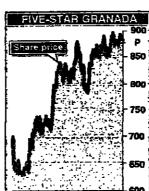
The company yesterday dis-closed that it had raised profits by £40 million in the first eight and half months since winning control of Forte - well above analysts' expectations. However, Granada shares fell 10p, to 88212p, after a market rumour that the company was interested in buying Accor, the French hotels company, although Charles Allen, Granada's chief executive, flatly denied the speculation.

Some City critics were also

disappointed that Gerry Rob-

inson, chairman, again rejected demerger of the media side and said that Granada had no plans to sell its 10.8 per cent of BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, in the near future.

The hotel division, acquired in the Forte takeover, recorded profits of £168 million, a 53 per cent rise on a like-for-like basis. Profits of the Exclusive chain of hotels, which Granada is selling grew by 60 per cent, to £31 million. Granada sold the Hyde Park Hotel to Mandarin



DJFMAMJJASON

Oriental International for £86

million this week. The media division, including the Granada and LWT television franchises, lifted its profits 17 per cent, to £163 million. Coronation Street branding deals, including sponsorship by Cadbury Schweppes, added £8 million in revenue.

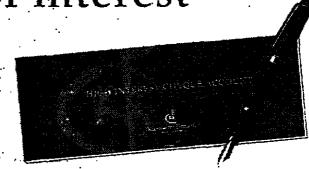
The restaurant division in-creased operating profits by 80 per cent, to £217 million, aided by inclusion of former Forte businesses, such as Little Chef. Granada said that Welcome Break, the motorway service chain, had increased profits by 39 per cent and is set for disposal early next year. Rental division profits rose by 3 per cent, to £126 million. Exceptional costs were £76

million, including £73 million for a reorganisation of Forte businesses involving nearly 600 job losses. Granada said there will be no more charges. The total dividend rises by 11 per cent, to 13p. A final payout of 8.765p is due on April 1.

Pennington, page 29

HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNT

Our cheque book is attracting a lot of interest



■ Interest paid monthly (5.33% gross compounded annually)

- Instant cheque book access to your money
- This account is available for individuals. companies, partnerships and clubs.
- Minimum balance is £2,500

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Memoral Benson Private Bank Stephenet Benan Private Bank of a Change of transfer Ben on incommon Mankower's Limited For need in England Summer 179-17 Member of the Dresdorr Bank Group

Kleinwort Benson

PRIVATE BANK

approve of higher spending on health and 52 per cent on education, even if FCUNOMICS CORRESPONDENT A MAJORITY of the British public say they would support higher public spending on health and education even if this would lead to higher taxes

household would directly benefit from

Majority favour higher public spending this." Richer people seemed inclined to favour higher spending on health through income-related taxes.

send their children to private schools seem to be most supportive of improvements in the state education system. This, it is suggested, was because they had opted only refuctantthey had been faced with little choice. ☐ The Adam Smith Institute's Budget

Chancellor to abolish or phase out capital gains tax, end inheritance tax. reduce excise duties on alcohol and extend childcare tax relief to small employers. The institute also advocates tax relief on home improvements that increase living space. This, it says, would decrease the need for expanding families to move and reduce pressure on the green belt.

0800 317477

The report shows that 64 per cent of the 1.200 people surveyed would

for them personally, a report pub-lished jointly by the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) and Social and Community Planning Research says today.

taxes were raised. Almost four of every ten people feel the same about spending on the police.
The IFS said: "People's attitudes seem

to be driven by a combination of selfinterest and a sense of the common good. In particular, many richer individuals viewed higher spending on education as in the national interest even if they did not believe that their own

and education even when financed The study found that parents who

Dawson confident despite a 13% fall

By SARAH CUMMINGHAM

DAWSON INTERNATION-AL, the knitwear group best known for Pringle cashmere sweaters, suffered a 13 per cent drop in pre-tax profits to £7.3 million in the six months ended September 28. There was a 3 per cent fall in sales to £154.3 million from £168.0 million.

Derek Finlay, chairman, said yesterday that despite the latest profits dig: "The turnaround at Dawson International is now proceeding on course."

He said sales of Pringle's new Faldo collection are going well and that the main cause of the fall in group sales in the first half was a slow start to the winter season in America, where the discount stores have been slow to take delivery from JE Morgan, its underwear

subsidiary. Mr Finlay said that retail sales of the goods are going well, "so we expect to see full delivery of orders in hand .

Construction of a cashmere dehairing plant in Baotou. Inner Mongolia, has hegun. It is intended to protect the group's long-term supply of top-quality Chinese raw white cashmere.

Earnings fell to 3.1p a share from 3.8p but the interim dividend has been held at 1.5p. payable on January 10. Net debt was reduced by £9.5 million year-on-year to £74.3 million. Net gearing was pulled back to 50 per cent from 54 per cent.



Derek Finlay, chairman, with Davina Kruse, a model, dressed in part of the company's latest Pringle range

National Power warns of big reduction in output

oany has predicted a contribu-

tion of £70 million for the full

year and £145 million for the

National Power spent more

than £600 million on overseas

rojects last year. Such spend-

ing is unlikely to be repeated

in the short term, but the com-

pany is committed to having

40 per cent of its assets over-

seas by the end of the decade

At present, direct ownership of

overseas plant amounts to

about 16 per cent of National

In the UK, the company

aims to maintain a market

share of between 20 and 23 per

cent as more electricity is gen-

erated by other companies. In

ollowing year.

Power assets.

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, NOUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

NATIONAL POWER yester day gave warning of a substantial full in its output and disclosed a £57 million charge for its abortive attempt to buy a regional electricity company.

The country's largest generator, which earlier this year was forced to sell off 4,000 megawatts of power stations, said that its output would fall by 20 per cent by the end of its financial year in March as the generating market becomes more competitive. Its one-off charge for the blocked move on Southem Electric cut pre-tax profits for the half year to September

lion. Most of the charge - E2 million — came from depreciation of a stake that National Power took in Southern Electric before the Government barred a takeover.

However, the generator had happier experiences with overseas operations, which, after some time of low delivery. have started to show profit growth. At the halfway stage, international activities contributed £23 million to profits. up from £6 million for 1995.

Keith Henry, chief executive, said that National Powinternational interests were starting to deliver what they had promised. The comthe period to September 30. however, its market share was 27 per cent.

After the veto by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, of both National Power's bid for Southern Electric and PowerGen's bid for Midlands Electricity. National Power is resigned to a domestic market in which little growth is possible. However. Mr Henry said that talks were progressing with a couple of regional companies to join forces before 1998 and the opening of the domestic mar-

ket to competition. The interim dividend, payable on January 14, rises by 11

IoD rules out public support for Tories

By PHILIP BASSETT INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S company directors want the Conservatives to win the general election, leaders of the Institute of Directors said yesterday as they launched their pre-election

business manifesto. But in spite of acknowledging the political preference of most of its members, the IoD refused to give public support

to the Conservatives. lan Lang, President of the Board of Trade, who will address the loD's annual dinner next week, believes that business should not attempt to maintain a position of political neutrality in the run-up to the election, but should fully support the Conservatives as the party best suited to it.

Tim Melville-Ross, the IoD's Director-General, accepted yesterday that the institute's refusal to give support to any particular political party would disappoint Mr Lang

and other ministers. While he insisted that the loD would work with any elected government, he acknowledged that most of the institute's 37,000 companydirector members were likely to be Conservative supporters and that they would want the party to continue its post-1979 unbroken run.

Ministers are likely to be particularly annoyed that the free-market IoD felt unable publicly to support the Conservatives' re-election, particularly since its leaders acknowledge privately that most of the measures it is seeking in its business manifesto and a special version for small firms are in the main closely in line with the Conservatives' policy

Emphasising that business competitiveness is the key to Britain's future prosperity, the IoD said that the next govern-ment should maintain a stable economy, stay out of a single currency "for the foreseeable future", retain Britain's optout from the EU social chapter and resist other European social law, reject a minimum wage and continue to minimise regulations.

Ford drops **BDDP**

as agency By JASON NISSE

BDDP, the Anglo-French advertising group that GGT Group is buying for £105 million, has been hit by the defection of an account worth \$50 million a year.

Wells Rich Greene, the New York agency that GGT describes as the jewel in BDDP's crown, has lost the corporate advertising account for Ford, the motor group. The business, which has annual revenues of \$50 million and generates an estimated profit of \$6 million, has gone to Ogilvy & Mather, which is

part of WPP Group. The loss comes at an embarrassing time for GCT. Mike Greenlees, its chief executive, and Mark Baylis, its finance director, have been touring institutional investors drumming up backing for the BDDP merger, which will triple GGT's size.

The advertising group proposes to finance the deal through a rights issue, raising more than £55 million, and its shares have been suspended because of the size of the deal. The loss of the Ford account

will more than wipe out the benefits GGT has been promising from moving Wells Rich Greene's Manhattan offices to less expensive accommodation.

BDDP recently completed the buyout of Financial Dynamics, the UK public relations firm, in a deal which gave senior staff bonus payments of £300,000 each.

TOURIST RATES

2.04 17.21 50.54 2.194 0.743 8.44 7.51 8.25 2.46 957 5.06 184.70 0.574 2.28 (2.34 2.47.00 10.574 2.28 (2.34 2.47.00 10.574 2.47.00 10.574 10.50

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

OFT delays ruling on Northern Electric

THE Office of Fair Trading has delayed deciding whether a hostile takeover of Northern Electric by CE Electric, of America, should be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The OFT has extended its consideration period by 15 days, to December 16. Doubts over whether the takeover will be allowed arise largely from the poor credit rating of CalEnergy, the majority partner in CE Electric. Political doubts also surround both this bid and the agreed bid by Dominion Resources, of Virginia, for East Midlands Electricity, given the proximity of a general election.

Entergy, the US utility based in New Orleans, yesterday Entergy, the US utility based in New Urleans, yesterday ended speculation that it was about to launch a bid for London Electricity, confirming that the two companies had held exploratory talks but saying that discussions had now ended. Patrick Sweeney, a spokesman for the US utility, refused to say on what grounds the talks had failed. London Electricity offered a similarly terse response.

Go-ahead for Go-Ahead

GO-AHEAD, the bus and train operator, has been shortlisted to tender for the ThamesLink rail franchise through Govia, a joint venture with VIA-GTI, the multinational transport group in France. ThamesLink is regarded as one of the most lucrative franchises, carrying commuters between Brighton and Bedford via the centre of London. Go-Ahead recently won the London-Hereford Thames Trains franchise, which takes in Oxford and Gatwick. It is also the second largest private bus operator in London.

Network prices to fall

PRICES paid by Mercury Communications, the cable companies and other telecommunications operators for using British Telecom's network will fall by 12 per cent over last year, Oftel, the industry regulator, said yesterday. The watchdog said that the reduction "reflects the downward movement of costs in telecommunications". However analysts said that the reduction will have only a small effect on BT's income and potential savings

Expansion hits Eidos

EIDOS, the computer games developer, returned sales of £20.5 million (£26,000) in the half year to September 30, after a full six-month contribution from Centregold, which it bought for £17 million in March. However, the expansion also brought pre-tax losses to an expected £4.71 million £264,000 loss) after much higher administration expenses and heavy redundancy costs stemming from the acquisition. Losses were 38.4p per share (0.13p loss). There is again no dividend.

Bunce in shares spree

MARK BUNCE, chief executive of Country Casuals, the fashion retailer, has bought 75,000 shares in the company at 68p a share, a total cost of £51,000. The move came a day after the company gave warning that its annual profits would be "materially below forecasts" after a "significant deteriora-tion" in trading at two of its divisions since its interim results. were reported on October 9. The shares fell from 100p to 64p on Tuesday, but finished up 8p, at 72p, yesterday.

Abbey in private bank

ABBEY NATIONAL the former building society turned bank, yesterday launched an international private banking operation in a joint venture with Hambros Bank and Dah Sing Financial Holdings, a Hong Kong company. The DAH Private Bank will provide private banking services and investment advice to clients with liquid assets of more than El50.000. Abbey National and Hambros are to invest £6.6 million each in the new venture.

Tax appeals reform plea

BRITISH tax appeals involve a baffling maze of provisions that need overhauling, according to the Tax Law Review Committee. In the direct tax field, the committee believes that there must be reform to equip the appeals tribunals that self-assessment will bring. The committee's recommendations include improvements in selecting members to local tribunals in direct tax appeals and changes in the way appeals are allocated in the High Court to ensure a core of judges with tax experience.

Seasonal slowdown

VCI, the video, book and audio publishing group, said that the Christmas shopping season had so far been slower than last year. The company said that in the first ten months of this year trade was ahead of expectations, but since then, "the early indications are that the critical Christmas shopping season has been slower than last year to gather full momentum in the markets in which we operate". VCI added that it was still confident that its objectives for 1996 were achievable.

Candle firm creates jobs

Ms £45111

A £16 million investment by an American-owned candle firm is to create 260 jobs in Britain, it was announced yesterday. CCW Manufacturing will open a new factory in Barrow in Furness, Cumbria, making speciality candles for the European market. The investment, the largest by an overseas firm in Cumbria for 20 years, includes a government grant of nearly £1 million.

Public Consultation

Control of Regional Television Licences by United News & Media

The Independent Television Commission is inviting public comment on whether the continued holding of the regional Channel 3 licences for the South and South-East of England by Meridian Broadcasting Limited and for the East of England by Anglia Television Limited, which are controlled by United News & Media (UN&M), operates against the public interest. The issue arises because UN&M also controls The Express, The Express on Sunday (formerly The Sunday Express) and the Daily Star, and certain local newspapers which circulate in the East of England (Anglia TV) region.

The matters to which the ITC must have regard in reaching a determination on this issue include: the desirability of promoting plurality of ownership and diversity in sources of information, certain economic benefits specifically resulting from the merger, and the effect of the merger on the properoperation of the broadcasting and newspaper markets.

Further details are contained in a press release available from: the ITC. Comments should be sent to the Secretary, ITC, 33. Foley Street, London W1P 7LB by 13 December,

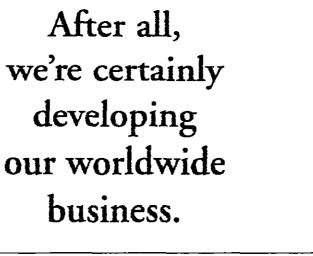




CABLE & WIRELESS & SATELLITE & FIBRE OPTICS & MOBILE & **DIGITAL & BROADBAND &** ENTERTAINMENT & INTERNET

Maybe we should expand our name.

After all, developing



performance during the first half of the year. We have achieved impressive headline growth with turnover ahead by 14% and efficiency has continued. to improve with operating margins up 2%. Cashbillion pound mark for the first rime.

As indicated by the financial results, Cable & Wireless - operating in over 50 countries - maintains technology and customer service. The past six months have seen major developments for the company.

In the UK, we announced our intention to form a new company. Cable & Wireless Communications, from a merger of the operations of Mercury Group, Nynes-CableComms Group, Bell Cablemedia and Videotron Holdings, Cable & Wireless Communications will be able to provide fixed and mobile telephone, broad-

Cable & Witeless has delivered a strong competitive. band data transmissions entertainment. Intervel week and interactive services in a single integrated package.

In Germany, we announced that our Charles with VEBA will be strengthened on a further partnership with the utilities company RWE to flow increased by £220 million and exceeded the creatign our position in Europe - Siggest teles-

In Australia, Opens delivered impressive results. four and a half years after start-up, and is now in a its drive to be a world leader in communications. Strong position to capitall e-on-its relation in a rapidly growing environment

In Hong Rong, AslaSat reported record nall-year profits, and looked forward to turnfur growth over the full year. The \$61 million reised by the disposal of a 10% share in AsiaSit as part of the company's flotation on the New York and Hong Kong stock exchanges demonstrates our continued ability to realise value from our investments.

Turnover of the company £2,942m +9% Turnover i melading share of associate, £3.401m. +14% £746m +17%

INTERIM REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL RESULTS

FOR THE 6 MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 1996

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

14.3p +10% 34p +(0% □ Robinson's no-sale strategy vindicated □ Tokyo's Big Bang could benefit investors □ Economy does not need fiscal boost

☐ IN some cases, the share price tells its own story. Granada Group's hostile takeover bid for Forte was launched a year ago tomorrow. The market took fright, as markets will when faced with the unexpected, and

sent Granada's share price back from just sort of £7 to below 650p.

The fear was, rightly, that Granada would have to pay more than the £3.3 billion then offered and, quite wrongly, that Gerry Robinson would overpay, overstretch his balance sheet and end up another victim of 1980s-style corporate ambition.

A year later the market reacted to a superb set of figures from Granada by sending the shares into reverse again — not by so much, and this time on the wild suggestion that the group would shortly be moving to take over the debt-plagued French caterer Accor. Over the previous year two more unexpected things have also happened. Granada shares have climbed by almost 40 per cent, a staggering rise for a FT-SE 100 company, and Mr Robinson, contrary to pledges made at the time of the bid, has sold only one of Forte's upmarket Exclusive hotels.

Those promises were made to assuage the City's fears over the £4 billion of debt the Forte purchase left Granada nursing. This column suggested then that Mr Robinson might not be too

Fices to fal

hiis Eidos

grajovi

Real life begins at Forte

keen to sell. Since then the market has seemingly shaken offits fear of Granada's debt, still £3.5 billion, and those properties have risen sharply in value. For example, the Hyde Park that went for £86 million this week had a book value of just £70 million. Now scale that increase up to take in the entire Exclusive business, book value at the time

business, book value at the time of the bid £780 million.
Yesterday's figures show why Mr Robinson should indeed not have been in any hurry to sell, over and above that asset appreciation. The £100 million in savings promised from Forte's business could be surpassed — Granada is already £40 million of the way there, ahead of schedule. The figures show the potential still achievable — occupancy rates for London and UK provincial hotels, at 86 and 72 per cent, are not that special, yet those hotels have achieved 29 and 19 per cent profits increases.

respectively.

The clear conclusion is that the Forte business was still being very badly run several years into the much-vaunted efficiency programme initiated by Sir Rocco

Forte. This was what the City believed, even if fund managers were publicly pilloried for selling out to Granada

out to Granada.

Still to come is a profitable demerger of the TV interests, which Mr Robinson significantly did not rule out in due course — a couple of years, perhaps, always assuming the taste of the markets has not by then turned back in favour of conglomerates. The dip in the share price yesterday, accompanied by figures so far ahead of expectations, suggests the City has not yet taken into account the benefits still to come. When it does, the share price will surely rise again.

Japan's tiddlers overtake the whales

☐ WHICH is the world's biggest bank, in terms of assets under management? Come on, come on, no conferring. No, not the recently merged Bank of Tokyo and Mitsubishi. The biggest bank, by that measure, is the Japanese Post Office, an odd fact indicative of the chronically protected and antiquated financial



regime in Tokyo. Now we are promised Japan's Big Bang, although cynics wonder how sweeping the changes will be.

But one has already happened. From the start of this year Japanese pension funds have been allowed to buy OTC, or Over The Counter, stocks, the fastest-growing sector of the moribund Japanese stock market. The OTC was set up 15 years ago as a junior exchange for smaller, fast-growth companies. Bureaucracy, and a Japanese passion for planned investment, had tended to funnel funds towards the big banks and industrial groups that make up the main stock market. Smaller companies had been deprived of capital, at least until main mar-

ket faltered in the early 1990s. Since then Japanese OTC companies have managed 7 to 8 per cent annualised earnings increases. While share prices have shot up, earnings multiples still compare favourably with the first-line companies. For a companison, OTC companies sell on 37 times' this year's earnings

on 37 times' this year's earnings

— relax, this is Japan, such
numbers are normal here —
while the equivalent of our FTSE 100 are on a multiple of 48.
Reseach by Invesco, which

Reseach by Invesco, which runs the Japan Discovery Trust specialising in smaller stocks, shows that the bottom half of the Tokyo exchange, including the OTC market, now has a quoted value bigger than the entire Hong Kong market and not far short of the Swiss stock exchange. OTC companies by their nature tend to be in growth areas such as the service industries, telecoms, multimedia and specialist retail.

As well as the pension funds, the smaller investors are coming in — these are now 40 per cent invested in the OTC and just 20 per cent in the major stocks. If something approaching Big

Bang happens in Tokyo, this will at the least cut such investors' dealing costs and allow them to increase that weighting.

Warning signs, for any Chancellor

☐ THE last batch of economic figures before next Tuesday's Budget could not be sending a clearer signal to a Chancellor.

A Lawson-style pre-election

A Lawson-style pre-election give-away is the last thing this economy needs. In October, unemployment plunged, inflation jumped, retail spending continued rising, tax receipts reached bumper proportions and the money supply surged as banks and building societies found consumers and companies keen to borrow. Beware of panickers who draw comparison with the boom conditions of the late 1980s.

We are not seeing anything like that kind of overheating. But this economy is rolling along perfectly nicely without a big fiscal boost. If it were not for the prospect of an election, the idea of tax cuts wouldn't even figure.

The Chancellor has long been

urging his more excitable colleagues to rely on a steady improvement in the economy to bring back the feel good factor

rather than tax sweeteners.

Now, the economy is delivering in spades and tax cuts look not only cynical but increasingly dangerous. They would go down very badly with the financial markets, and the price would inevitably be paid in higher interest rates. The only way the Chancellor can stop the bandwagon for tighter money getting out of hand, sterling scaring and everyone suffering is to continue highly effective practice of delivering political aplomb and no substance on Budget day.

Polls apart

THE Institute for Fiscal Studies has turned up an apparent paradox: the public wants higher government spending even if this means taxes have to rise, but most people think their own tax bill is already too high. The same paradox preceded the last election, and explains why the pollsters' forecasts were so badly wrong. Try this simple experiment. Approach the man or woman in the street, clutching clipboard, and ask if they want better hospitals and schools. Then ask them, in the anonymity of the polling booth, whether they wish to pay for them.

C&W may cut stake in HK Telecom

By Eric Reguly

CABLE AND WIRELESS would consider reducing its stake in Hongkong Telecom and sees the merit in making One-2-One, the mobile phone company, part of its new cable group, Dick Brown, chief executive, said yesterday.

Mr Brown, the American executive who replaced James Ross in the summer, said that determining the strategy of 58 per. cent-owned. Hougkong Telecon, C&W's biggest company, is a priority before the colony reverts to Chinese control in June.

Analysts have suggested

that C&W may reduce its holding in Hongkong Telecom in exchange for greater access to China, the world's fastest growing telecoms market. "If done correctly, that may well make sense," Mr Brown said. It is known that regional and national Chinese telephone companies are putting pressure on C&W to give them a link with Hongkong Telecom, which has a moropoly on Hong Kong's international telephone traffic. Analysts said that C&W could appease them by selling them

a stake in Hongkong Telecom.
C&W, however, wants no retain control of HongKong Telecom, which accounts for about two-thirds of the group's operating profit. The question is whether C&W would have

effective control if its holding slips below 50 per cent.

Mr Brown said that C&W's other priority is to complete the integration of Mercury Communications, which is 80 per cent owned by C&W, with Nynex, Bell CableMedia and Videotron, the three cable companies. The new group, to be called Cable and Wireless Communications, will be 53 per cent owned by C&W and is to be floated.

Mr Brown said there are compelling reasons to make One-2-One, which is owned equally by C&W and US West, the American cable and media company: part of C&W Communications. "I've said that no wretine company on earth can do without wreless capability." he said.

ility," he said.
C&W reported a pre-tax profit, excluding exceptional items, of £673 million in the half-year to September 30, up 9 per cent, on turnover of £2.94 billion, also up 9 per cent. The results were in line with enaltysts' forecasts. A 29 per cent rise in Mercury's operating profits, to £130 million, were behind the earnings rise.

Earnings per share before exceptionals were 14.3p against 13p and the interim dividend, to be paid on February 28, rises 10 per cent to 3.4p.

Tempus, page 30

Health firm seeks £45m to fund deal

By Eric Reguly

BIOCOMPATIBLES, the fastgrowing medical materials and coatings company, plans to raise £45.5 million in a rights issue, its fourth cash call since last year, to help to fund its latest acquisition. The four-for-23 rights issue at 500p a share brings the

The four-for-23 rights issue at 500p a share brings the amount raised since 1995, when the company was floated on the London Stock Exchange, to about 685 million. The shares, floated at 170p, closed at 602½ p, up 21½p.

Biocompatibles said that

Biocompatibles said that most of the new money will be used to fund the purchase of Divysios Solutions, a Canadian company that develop stents, the devices placed in contricted blood vessels to keep them open. Biocompatibles estimates the global stent market at US\$1 billion a year.

Biocompatibles will pay Divysios an initial US\$14 million. Divysios will use the cash to subscribe to the rights issue.



Apta agrees £13m bid by Exceler

By Martin Barrow

THE consolidation of the private nursing home sector gathered pace yesterday with a £13.4 million agreed bid for Apta Healthcare by Exceler Health Care, the UK subsidiary of Sun, of America.

The combined business will rank among Britain's top five nursing home companies. Apta operates 33 nursing and residential support homes with 1,294 registered beds. Exceler operates 43 homes with 2,123 beds.

Exceler is offering 17¹2p for each Apta share, against yesterday's unchanged stock market price of 16¹4p. The offer represents a 7.7 premium to the closing price on November 14, the last day before Apta announced it was in talks with a potential bidder.

The bidder has received irrevocable undertakings from directors of Apta and other investors to accept the offer in respect of 57 per cent of the ordinary shares and 26 per cent of the warrants.

In the year to April 30 Apta earned pre-tax profits of £1.5 million on turnover of £11.79 million. Net assets were £10.49 million at April 30. Since the last financial year-end Apta has acquired three homes with a total of 47 beds at a cost of £1.57 million and entered into operating leases in respect of a further three homes containing 179 beds. Sun, a US provider of long-

term and specialist care, operates 153 care homes with

about 18,700 beds.

If you run a small business and you'd like to say "Thank You" to your customers this Christmas, a card is the best way to get your message across.

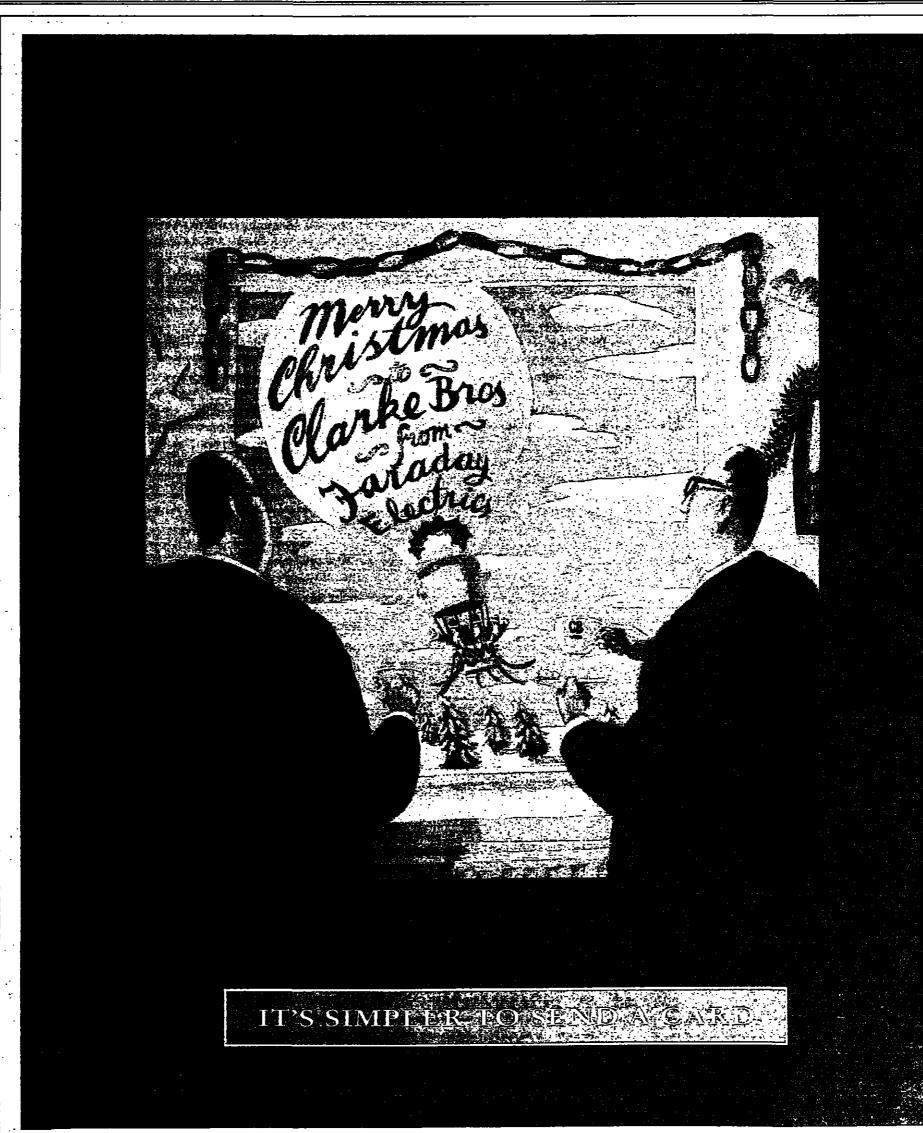
It provides a nice personal touch that's warm and friendly without being over the top. And, unlike a business card which usually goes straight into the bottom of a drawer or the waste-paper bin, your card will be a thoughtful reminder of your services right up to Twelfth Night.

Post your cards (using our colourful festive stamps) and

Royal Mail could help your company to have a more prosperous New Year.

A card makes everyone's Christmas.







MICHAEL CLARK

Railtrack shares en a whistle-stop rid

A TWO-WAY pull has developed in shares of Railtrack, which has been one of the big success stories for investors among the top 100 companies so far this year.

The price enjoyed a whistle-stop ride yesterday as almost 8.5 million shares changed hands. The share price climbed 23p to a new high of 344p on the back of positive comments from NatWest Securities, the broker. That compares with the 190p the shares were floated at in May after privatisation. Behind the rise has been the hidden strength of the group's property portfolio which has come to be realised since the summer.

NatWest said interim figures demonstrated that Railtrack was ahead of expectations in terms of operating performance, cost reduction, property portfolio value and cash generation. It has raised its pre-tax profits forecast for 1997 by £5 million to £305 million and for 1998 by £10 million to 5340 million.

But Credit Lyonnais Laing. a rival broker, takes the view the price has run far enough and is vulnerable to the imposition of a windfall tax by a Labour government. It urges clients to switch into the water utilities which, by comparison, are undervalued and offer

Water shares were finding the going difficult yesterday with falls recorded in Anglian, op to 5672 p. United Utilities, 412 p to 60212 p. and Wessex, 3p

to 3672 p.
Wall Street's overnight record-breaking run had only a temporary effect on London where share prices gave up an early 10.9 lead to close lower on the day. A setback for gilts on the back of some worse than expected money supply figures pulled the rug from under investors and effectively scuppered any remaining hopes they might have had that the Chancellor might peg rates. October sales also indicated that inflationary pressures were contin-

In the event, the FT-SE 100 ended 15.3 points down at 3,962.8 as total turnover reached 712 million shares.

Eurotunnel slipped another 2p to 86p, reflecting the delay in re-opening the link after this week's fire. Fears are growing that services could be disrupted for months while repairs are made. WH Smith bounced back with a rise of Hp

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Gordon Campbell, left, and Howard Evans of Courtaulds

at 430½ p. The shares were hit on Tuesday by claims that the group was about to issue a gloomy trading update.

British Energy rose 25 p to 135½ p on hopes for a positive performance when the group unveils figures this morning. Brokers such as NatWest Securities are looking for pre-tax profits of E25 million. The rumoured dawn raid for Imp-

group can sell its chain of exclusive hotels for more than the current book value of 5800 million. But the group denied plans to demerge parts of the business. Suggestions that it intended to buy Accord, the French hotel chain, were also

Forte. Brokers are now look-

ing to upgrade their profit

estimates for the full year.

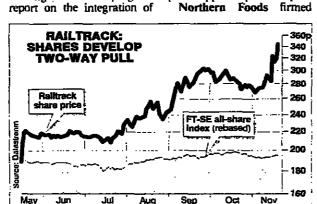
They are also confident the

The speculators were out in force yesterday driving up Sears. the Selfridges to Freemans mail order retailer. 3p to 93p as more than II million shares changed hands. The price is still below the high for the year of 104 2 p, with whispers in the Square Mile suggesting that the group is linning up another disposal.

erial Tobacco failed to materialise, leaving the price 7½ p off at 364p. Imps has been the subject of intense speculation since being demerged from Hanson earlier this year. BAT Industries, 3p easier at 435p, has been mentioned as a

prospective suitor. Granada pleased the City with better than expected firsthalf figures and a progress denied. But the damage had been done and the shares finished 10p lower at 8822p. The profits setback at Nat-

ional Power was worse than expected and the shares finished 18p lower at 435p. Halfyear profits towards the top end of expectations at Cable and Wireless failed to cut much ice with brokers and the price slipped 12p to 4812p.



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Cou back stemn wamir 72p. A vantage of the setback to top up his holding. He has picked up 75,000 at 68p.

Scruttons extended this week's lead with a rise of 5p to 320p. It is 21 per cent owned by Ropner Holdings, down 3p at 1182p, which has received a bid approach from Jacobs. unchanged at 71 p. As part of its on-going restructuring. Scruttons plans to float its security division on the Alternative Investment Market.

Exeter Investment took its place on the AIM after a placing by Greig Middleton, the broker, at 90p. The shares ended the session at 972p, a

premium of 7½ p.
News that TT Group. 2p firmer at 31812, had acquired 4.75 million shares, or 8.5 per cent, lifted Rochoro Group 21p to 1595 n. ☐ GILT-EDGED: A sharper

than expected rise in the October money supply figures brought the bond market's recent rally to a screeching halt and sent investors scurry ing for cover. Prices in London opened sharply lower, reflecting similar moves by bunds after the latest rise in the German IFO business sentiment index, which effectively rules out further Bundesbank cuts in interest rates. The domestic retail sales enabled prices in London to close off the bottom, with falls stretch-

ing to £4 in places. In the futures pit cember series of the long gilt dropped £516 to EliO4 as a total of 80,000 contracts were completed. In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 finished £932 lower at £1021932, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 shed three ticks at £1021516.

☐ NEW YORK: US stocks

were higher half way through the early trading session. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 29.44 points to 6,427.04.

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MAJOR CHANGES

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Jarvis Porter	230 (+ 13p)
Capital Radio	561'ap (+16p)
	380p (+131zp)
	317'-p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Huntleigh Tech	195p (-14p)
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LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

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MAJOR INDICES New York (midday): Dow Jones 04.27.04 (+29.44)

...... 743.93 (+1.77)

0: Average 21189.96 (-233.78) 5 Kong: ieng 13167.16 (+110.23)	Funding fa	
erdam: dex606.59 (-2.87) ey:2392.7 (-2.6.7)	COURTAULDS put on a brave face yesterday and told the market to stop whispering about rights issues. The half-year figures gave some comfort to the company. The huge outflow in	future growth — principally Teno product that could be producing £100 of of profit at peak sales of £400 million to million in five years' time. It is those
cfurt: 2774.50 (+10.41) (working capital last year has been turned round and gearing is improved. At the same time the operational picture is better, with margins on the mend in acrylics and if.	numbers that drive the current share ra 19 times forecast earnings, a level that hardly be justified by the pedestrian mance of the rest of the business. To achieve this, Courtaulds needs
Sels: 1 10254.95 (-1.03)	demand for viscose has not improved, at least the wood pulp price has stabilised. Last year's volatility in raw material prices left the fibres	Tencel into the next Lycra but the collacks the resources of a Du Pont. A

yarn in the paws of an excited kitten. Yet new problems loom: sterling could upset its UK cellulose export businesses, particularly cigarette filters. And the commodity fibres, acrylics and viscose, have yet to get back to the levels of high cash generation the company needs. Courtaulds is investing huge sums in

business looking as vulnerable as a ball of

future growth - principally Tencel, the product that could be producing £100 million of profit at peak sales of £400 million to £500 million in five years' time. It is those sort of numbers that drive the current share rating of 19 times forecast earnings, a level that would hardly be justified by the pedestrian performance of the rest of the business.

To achieve this, Courtaulds needs to turn Tencel into the next Lycra but the company lacks the resources of a Du Pont. At least another £200 million needs to be invested in manufacturing, not to mention the marketing and promotion needed to create a fashion trend. While Courtaulds is right to reject a share issue, it could do with an Asian partner. A deal that would provide cash and marketing knowhow without sacrificing control of Tencel technology might be just the ticket.

ing HKT's commercial inter-

ests and pleasing Peking. One solution would be to

trade equity in HKT for

better access to the vast

Chinese market. However.

giving away too much could

damage the whole C&W

group and until the issue is

resolved, C&W's long-term

ignification

k_{and} bear

Tabut

te asset

C&W

DICK BROWN is shaking up Cable and Wireless. Since the summer, when the American regional phone boss was installed as chief executive, he has strengthened the company's German alliance and negotiated a merger between Mercury Communications and three leading cable companies. The intention is to create a telecoms

and media powerhouse. Yet his greatest challenge is still to come. Hongkong Telecom still dominates C&W, which is under pressure to come up with a strategy for its stake in the Colony's phone company before the territory reverts to China in June. The outcome will determine whether C&W becomes a key player or an also-ran in the world's fastest growing phone market. HKT is

growth prospects remain in the balance. C&W has to tread a narrow line between safeguard-FT-SE all-share index Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov

FKI

FKI has come a long way since the dog days of the early 1990s, but now it needs another big deal. Yesterday's interim results from the engineering group show margins advancing once again, up a full percentage point from the same period last year. FKI is confident that it can work the same trick on the Hawker Siddeley electric power group, recently bought from BTR. More investment in new product development

will help. 🐇 impressive job wringing ex-tra pounds from FKI's portfo-lio of largely mature businesses. Still, there must be doubts about how more can be achieved. This is why FKI remains

ambitious to make further (and bigger) acquisitions - ideally a badly managed nugget that is languishing unloved within an industrial giant. Since FKI's £137

months ago, the City has been expecting a big acquisi-tion. With the company val-ued at more than £1.1 billion, the £182 million Hawker Siddeley deal is not big news.

However, with FKI making steady progress on most fronts, the shares, up 42p to 203p yesterday, remain good

coveted by the national and

regional phone companies in

China They need HKT's

lucrative international traffic

and they want its new tech-

nology. Moreover, the Pe-

king government would like

to see greater Chinese own-

ership

of the phone

National Power NATIONAL FOWER'S home turf is looking less fertile, forc-

ing attention onto the overseas operations. Britain's biggest generator has, so far, little to show for its international expansion effort. However, yesterday it

was able to demonstrate that its faith in foreign projects has not been entirely misplaced. Contributions from overseas operations amounted to £23 million for the half year and are on course to deliver £70 million by the year end. Furthermore, National Power reckons that it will more than double that figure by 1997/98. Overseas profits of that magmitude will produce an earnings-per-share contribution of 8p, against the full year's expected 25 p and the present half year's loss of 112 p.

Such profit projections are comforting. Sceptics feared that international generation projects are becoming too competitive, with prices well in excess of levels that would permit reasonable returns.

At home, the story is far more gloomy, and National Power has caused some concern with its downbeat predictions for market share.

Although the company parted with 4,000 megawatts of power station capacity earlier this year, the forecast that its output will fall by 20 per cent was much worse than expected by the market. With no obvious ways of growing the business at home, National Power must pin its hopes firmly on its overseas power stations.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

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Spain	125.90-126.00
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RAC 195	Redland 1,400	
84 1,000	Reed Intl 1,700	
Brit Gas 13,900	Rentokli 5,700	
Brit Steel 3.900	Reuters 7,000	
garway CAS 444	Rollis Royce: 4,700	
Burton 5.300	Royal & Sun 1,200	
Cable Wire 7,300	Royal Bk Sct 1,100	
Cadbury 1,200 Carlton Cros 253	Saleway 2700 Sainsbury 2900	
Cariton Cms 253 Cm Union 1,500	Schroders 73	
Courtaulds 769	Scot & New 1,000	
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3

Cork pops for **Breaky Bottom**

THE new Lord Mayor of London loved the English "champagne" served at his presentation dinner so much, that he ordered another 20 cases.

Roger "Porky" Cork first tasted the home-grown sparkling wine at the Butchers Hall last month, where 60 City luminaries saw him presented formal-ly to the Queen's representative. It hails from the curiously titled vineyard of Breaky Bottom, Lewes, where viniculturist Peter Hall has been making fine wines for 22 years.

Bulls and bears

A NOVEL way of predicting the future economic climate. Turn to "The Collins Bank of English", a database of current English speech and writing. Between 1989 and 1996, the words bull market occurred 2.3 times more than bear market. What's more, the bulls have shown an increase of late, with almost ten times as many references in 1995 as 1993. There has been a dramatic plunge this year, however, and Collins predicts the dip will continue. The bears have shown less severe fluctuations, and Collins sees a slight up-turn for them in 1997.

Water sport

MIKE WALKER, head of policy at the Water Companies Association, deprived his neighbours of running water when he stuck a nail through a supply pipe. Having bought the flat next door to his palatial pad in Prince of Wales Drive, he chose last weekend to knock through the adjoining water six-foot long shot acrosss his new bathroom. All Walker could say was: "It's a good job we weren't



Cricket asset

HILL SAMUEL Asset nounce today its decision to sponsor Middlesex Cricket Chub. The downside of the three-year deal, which will be worth more than £750.000. is that the team will have the Hill Samuel logo splashed across their shirts, sweaters, tracksuits, and training kit. A small price to pay, I'm sure.

Fitness battle

TWELVE helicopter lessons and a £1,000 necklace are up for grabs at the Broadgate Club today as City fitness teams battle it out. Companies will compete in five disciplines: a 200 metre swim, the ten metre zir pistol shoot, the 100 metres row, five kilometres of cycling and the Bucking Bronco ride. Running on the treadmill has not been included. It was feared the runners might go too fast for the machine over a short distance. Jim Fox, Olympic gold medal winner, is organising the challenge, and all the proceeds will go to the Modern Pentathion Association of Great Britain.

The Institute of Public Relations hosted a conference vesterday on "Ethical Values in Business Communications". Unbelievable? The chosen venue was The Salvation Army beadquarters .

MORAG PRESTON

City gravy train promises a Christmas bonus bonanza

Robert Miller and Jon Ashworth on the culture of high risk, high reward

ity bonuses are back with a vengeance. Between now and Christmas thousands of already highly paid executives will be told how much more they have earned in bonus payments for 1996, after a record year for company mergers and takeovers that have collectively generat-ed fees of well above £1 billion.

What distinguishes this latest bout of generous bonuses for City high-flyers from previous occasions is a significant shift in emphasis from paying purely on results to the more common habit nowadays of making some part of the remuneration package guar-

anteed, regardless of results. The Mergers and Acquisi-tions (M&A) market is the most lucrative by far and generates hundreds of millions of pounds in fees — win or lose - for bankers, lawyers, public relations firms, head-hunters who find the top players, and accountants. In the first nine months of this year, according to the respected Acquisitions Monthly magazine, a total of £42.6 billion was spent on 1,239 acquisitions, compared with 1,168 acquisitions valued at £40.3 billion in 1995. Management buyouts are also on the increase, with 280 deals worth £2.3 billion recorded between January and September. On the back of these deals

the participants can now expect to earn bonuses of between 100 per cent and 200 per cent of their salaries in some cases. Last year, for example, when M&A fees were £950 million, Barings, the merchant bank that crashed with debts of £830 million and was rescued for a nominal £1 by ING, the Dutch banking and insurance group, topped the City league table on takeovers and mergers with 26 deals worth £19.48 billion. These included advising Lloyds Bank on its \$5.9 billion takeover of TSB Group.

The Barings success story in the M&A market was clouded by controversy, however, when it emerged that Andrew Tuckey, deputy chairman at the time of its crash, who subsequently resigned only to be taken on again as a corporate finance consultant, was in line to receive a bonusenhanced remuneration package that was worth up to £500,000. This was something of a pay cut for Mr Tuckey. who in 1993 is believed to have earned a bonus of £1.4 million, on top of his salary of £237,000, and a pension contribution of £34,000.

But the real clue as to what

can be earned in salary and bonuses by the top players in the corporate finance and M&A market was highlighted by two deals this year. In the first, Barclays lured the highly-rated Bill Harrison from Robert Fleming, where he was chief executive of investment banking, to become a director of the bank and chief executive of BZW. the global investment banking

arm of Barclays.
In addition to a relatively modest £300,000 annual salary. Mr Harrison will be paid a



Bill Harrison: £1.25m bonus guaranteed by Barclays



Michael Hepher: £750,000 'windfall' from previous job

Clark: £3m court award

1996 guaranteed minimum bonus of £1.25 million, due at the end of next March. His guaranteed bonus for next year, payable in March 1998, is £900,000 in cash. This relates to Mr Harrison's first lear of employment with the Barclays Group. Further, he is to receive £600,000 of Barclays shares as part of an executive award scheme linking directors' remuneration with the performance of the group, and are made in equal tranches on the third, fourth

But dwarfing Mr Harri-son's deal is last month's NatWest acquisition of J.O. Hambro Magan, the highly successful corporate finance boutique headed by George Magan. Analysts believe that

and fifth anniversaries of the

award date.

the basic £20 million price tag could eventually top £150 million after 120 staff of the combined operation were locked in by golden handcuffs". Some of the new con-

tracts are said to be worth as

much as £2 m

performers. was spending money freely the parent bank was under fire from the 40.000 NatWest Staff Federation for scrapping the present bonus system, and replacing it with a new scheme which is in line with the drive to a more performance-related culture", said the bank. After

While NatWest Markets some 20,000 staff sent "protest" cards to Derek Wanless. NatWest's chief executive, the bank did agree to delay full implementation to 1998 so that

next year staff will have an

element of their bonus, worth £80 million in 1995, guaranteed, but for the last time.

Employment experts say bonuses play a unique role in Britain Salaries tend to be lower and bonuses higher, in contrast to the rest of Europ where fixed salaries are the norm. Cultural tensions were exposed by the wave of mergers involving Swiss Bank Corporation (SBC). Deutsche Bank and others. The Swiss and Germans demanded a move to fixed salaries on the ground that payrolls would be easier to monitor. The calls were rejected out of hand. SBC, which now owns Warburg, the London broker, recently announced that it had set aside a £70 million bonus pot to reward executives and

senior traders.



Andrew Large, SIB chairman, who fears excessive rewards culture carries risks

established pattern of high risk, high reward, according to Ronnie Fox, senior partner of Fox Williams and an expert in contractual law. In the City, rewards tend to be tied closely to individual performance. Mr Fox, asked to advise on a bonus of £7 million for one City star, questioned what the recipient could possibly have done to command such a sum. The answer, he was told, was simple: the individual concerned had made the bank a profit of £42 million.

The inner practices of companies were laid uncomfortably bare in the case of John Clark, who was ousted as chief executive of BET after the takeover by Rentokil Initial earlier this year. He was subsequently awarded compensation of more than [3] million in the High Court an award influenced by the level of bonuses he had come to expect. It was ruled that he was entitled to 50 per cent bonuses over the three-year term of his contract: about £735,000. It emerged that Sir Clive Thompson, Rentokil's chief executive, had received bonuses worth as much as 70 per cent in preceding years.

Geoff Tyler, the lawyer who acted for Mr Clark, said there had been a move away from large fixed salaries towards bonuses linked more directly to performance. Mr Tyler, senior employment partner in Biddle & Co, the City law firm, said performance was becoming an important factor in the remuneration of senior executives. New features include restrictive share award schemes, in which executives are awarded the equivalent of their bonus in shares, payable at some time in the future. This gives them even more of an incentive to make the share price perform.

Credit for one of the more nusual "bonus" arrangeunusua! ments of 1996 goes to Michael Hepher, who stepped down as managing director of BT in December. Mr Hepher, newly installed as chief executive of Charterhouse, remains on BT's payroll until August 1997, earning him an additional £700,000 on top of his Charterhouse package. Charterhouse said that Mr. Hepher had not received any form of "golden hello" on he comp

Noel Howell of Bifu, the banking, insurance and finance union, yesterday strongly condemned the soaring bonuses now being handed out to top City executives. He said: "The pay gap between fat cats and most ordinary staff is widening considerably. It seems that banks are paying ever larger bonuses just for some staff to stay, while some 120,000 jobs have been lost in the financial services sector since 1990. If banks want to pay bonuses [that's] fine, but it should be rewarding loyalty across the board and not just a privileged handful." The City houses and mer-

chant banks argue that to become top players in the markets in which they operate they have to recruit star performers. But that view is not shared by London's top regulator, Sir Andrew Large, chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, gave warning recently about the dangers of overpaying. He said: "Issues do arise about the balance between paying stars competitively in order to retain the best, on the one hand, and the risk of incentivising such people to behaviour that is harmful and can lead to serious damage, long-term, to the firm as a whole."

Myth behind the idea of an unfettered global economy

Anita Roddick argues that the drive to

deregulate free trade further is the

last hurrah of an outdated theory

ast week the Government published a White Paper promoting global trade, which urged the abolition of all tariff barriers by 2020. Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, called it "an idea whose time has come". l would argue that it's an idea whose time has gone.

Free trade holds much of the blame for continued international conflict. Markets are said to possess wisdom that is somehow superior to man. Those of us in business who travel in the developing world see the results of such Western wisdom, and have a rumbling disquiet about much of what our economic institutions have bought into. I'm writing from southern Mexico. where I see at first hand how destructive unrestrained economic growth can be, not just for the natural environment but also to human development

According to the theory of free trade, which I call "licentious" trade, we should all be happy the globe is rapidly becoming a playground for those who can move capital and projects quickly from place to place. It's not easy challenging the unshakeable belief

in the omunfettered but it has to be done. Is the market really "free"? Free for whom, free what? Freedom at any the price of human rights abuses paid 100

Roddick: "licentious belief" voke Adam Smith, the

grandfather of the concept, who argued that for free trade to flourish it was necessary to destroy monopolies of power and create accountability in business. But free trade as practised has been one of the greatest deceptions.

It is the idea of business accountability whose time has come and one that is recognised by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) among the growing voices speaking out against the grand free trade deception. By globalisation they understand that human beings need to be protected. not profits. NGOs are the voice of the otherwise unrep-

resented poor.
Christian Aid recently launched its "Change The Rules" campaign, highlighting how many Third World farmers producing food for Britain's supermarkets suffer unacceptably low wages. or work in dangerous and degrading conditions. Su-permarkets have the money. muscle and mechanisms to guarantee a better deal for Third World producers. Christian Aid supports a

Supermarket Charter for the Third World and independent monitoring of conduct. Detractors would argue that the cost to supermarkets would simply be passed on.

That's where thoughtful regulation comes in. Changing the rules is useless if the burden is simply passed on instead of shared. We need to change the rules governing internation-

al trade. If businesses trying to improve their own ethical performance got together with organisations that understand the needs of people in poorer countries, perhaps we could all move down the same path towards positive change. Our current economic indicators are inadequate for measuring global trade's human effects: we are tethered by the tyranny of the bottom line. What about putting emotion, compassion and caring into the economic equation?

Ask yourself what "global" really means. Politics and commerce are not separate. Events in Rwanda and Zaire are directly linked to armaments factories and dealers' offices in the UK. It is a chain of death, in which some links are more impli-

cated than others, and one British

ment with its unfettered trade policy. The White Paper says: Security

ential for the free mar ket to operate success fully

worldwide. whose sec-

urity, whose stability? In June 1996, Shell Nigeria's general manager said: "For a commercial company trying to make investments you need a stable environment. Dictatorships can give you that." Malcolm Rifkind, the For-

eign Secretary, hopes that the Government's campaign will help people to "trade that to the Ogoni people of Nigeria, a country still just in the Commonwealth that might reasonably be expected to be subject to some UK influence. The real costs of unsettered trade - environmental degradation and social unrest - are always borne by those with least economic power.

The world will be richer

if others follow Britain's lead," says Kenneth Clarke. implying that all will be fine as long as people do not interfere. The time has come for business and political leaders to stop perpetuating this deceptive myth of free trade and create economics as if people and the planet Anita Roddick is founder of The Body Shop

BUSINESS LETTERS

Virgin survey shows BA/AA alliance should be referred

From the Chairman of the Virgin Group of Companies Sir, Once again British Airways is obviously trying to twist reality to suit the terms of its proposed merger with American Airlines.

Jon Ashworth's article about the EU probe into the proposed BA/AA monopoly (November II) mentions that market research shows that consumers favour the deal by a margin of seven to one. What nonsense.

Providing funds

for pension needs

Sir, The advantages of a

country having funded pen-

sion schemes (House of Com-

mons Report, November 1)

should not be overstated.

Whereas an individual pen-

sion scheme can fund, it is

much more difficult for a na-

tion as a whole to do so. The

simplest way is to acquire for-

rign assets, as Japan has been

From Professor

Gordon Pepper

The only research that BA has carried out is among some of BA's own passengers and it has never made the questions

or the results public.

Virgin, on the other hand. asked MORI to conduct an independent survey of all adults in the UK which indicated that the vast majority thought the deal should be referred to the MMC. Most consumers also felt that Virgin was right to complain and that

doing. This implies a deficit on

the capital account of the

the deal would inevitably lead to higher prices. We made all the results public and are confident that the unbiased results are robust, which is more than one can say for BA's own passenger lobbying exercise dressed up as a market research. Yours faithfully,

RICHARD BRANSON, Chairman.

Virgin Group of Companies, 11 Holland Park, WII.

country's balance of payments. For this to be sustained income for themselves. there must be a persistent sur-The UK's current account of plus on the current account. The main domestic way in which a country can fund is if the contributions to pension

funds lead to a high overall level of savings. This must feed through to industrial and other investment in productive assets. The result of this must, in turn, be that national income grows at a faster rate than would otherwise be the

case. Finally workers at the time the pensions are paid must not claim the increase in

the balance of payments, level of savings, amount of industrial investment and growth of GDP do not suggest that the nation has succeeded in funding in spite of the activities of individual pension schemes. Yours faithfully, GORDON PEPPER. City University

The rewards of loyalty to BT From Professor V. Moses

Sir, One must sympathise with Sir Iain Vallance and Sir Peter Bonfield at BT about the resentment which may arise over the inequality of their pay compared with that of their new partners at MCI (Business News, November 7). Of course the top employees

at BT should have their rewards raised to meet the Americans and to ensure their loyalty. It is indeed difficult to understand how each has hitherto managed on only \$1 million a year.

No doubt in fairness the pay of all the other BT employees will also rise to American levels - and for the same reason. One would not wish their loyalty to go unrecognised and unreward-This leaves the customers. Presumbably their telecommunication charges will fall to US rates. Are they not also loyal? Yours faithfully,

74 Aylestone Avenue, NW6.

V. MOSES,

Northern Foods counts the cost of BSE scare

By Sarah Cunningham

A GOOD performance from its prepared foods division Northern Foods, partially countering a squeeze on dairy earnings and a E3 million hit from the BSE scare.

Christopher Haskins, Northern's chairman, said: "The effect of BSE on food processing has been seriously

Lost sales because of wor-ries about BSE knocked El million off profits on convenience foods, such as chilled lasagne, and £2 million off profits on meat. "We don't see

a material recovery in consumer demand. We just hope stabilises at the current level," Mr Haskins said.

to September 30.

rose by 1.9 per cent, to £244 million, and grocery sales rose by 36.5 per cent, to £180 miltion. Sales of meat products fell by 7 per cent, to £115 million. and dairy sales fell by 13 per cent, to £403 million. Dairy

TBI soars above travel downturn

By Fraser Nelson

TBI, the property and, airturn in air travel in the summer to more than double pre-tax profits to £9.7 million from £4.24 million in the six months to Septem-

The company, which owns Cardiff and Belfast airports, attributed the results to a 47 per cent lift in scheduled flights, a 20 per cent rise in spending per passenger and costs saved by outsourcing.

Profits were also enhanced by a £1.65 million surplus from the disposal of a property in Stevenage,

Keith Brooks, chief executive, said that customer spending at Belfast airport, acquired for £100 million in August, rose from £1.95 to

The company, a major sup-plier to Marks & Spencer, made a pre-tax profit, before exceptionals, of £57.8 million. up I per cent, in the six months Sales of convenience foods

£2.20 per passenger and was

expected to increase further.

The company said the commercial development of

Cardiff airport, acquired in 1995, was continuing suc-

cessfully, with a 47 per cent increase in scheduled traffic

and the expenditure per

Gearing was down to down to 54 per cent from 94

per cent. Mr Brooks said,

and TB1 might possibly

complete another acquisi-

tion similar in size to Belfast

airport. The interest charge

rose to £5.61 million from

TBI's property division

again turned in strong growth, with a 26 per cent

rise in its 12-month leases.

Earnings rose 26 per cent to

2.56p per share. Again there is no interim dividend.

passenger up 14 per cent.

cantly reduced margins for Sales of milk delivered to the doorstep declined by 9 per cent, which is less than expected, and the price of a delivered pint was increased by lp. to around 39p. on October 1 without so far hitting sales. Supermarket milk prices remain under pressure because of intense competition.

operating profits were down

by 27 per cent, to £22 million.

The fall in dairy sales was partly attributable to the

disposal of some milk rounds.

but, Mr Haskins said, "profits

of the dairy business declined

more than we had anticipated as commodity prices col-

lapsed". Although world de-

mand for dairy products has weakened, and the value of

sterling has risen, milk com-

modity prices have not been

cut. This resulted in signifi-

The dairy business continues to be affected by falling commodity prices in the second half. Mr Haskins said. However, he reckons that, excluding this factor, North-ern has "probably finally stabilised" its dairy profits. The company plans to end

glass bottling at its Ashby dairy early next month, with the loss of about 20 jobs. In all, around 1.000 jobs have gone in the past year, reducing the staff total to about 25,000. No more major rounds of job losses are expected.

The performance of the groceries division is flattered by the inclusion of Green Isle. maker of Goodfella's pizzas, as a subsidiary for the whole period, compared with two months in 1995.

Earnings per share were 0.3 per cent higher, at 7.28p, and the interim dividend rises by 2.9 per cent, to 3.6p per share, payable on March 27. The shares closed up 2½ p. at 198p.



Joint effort: John McCarthy, left, and Matthew Thorne, finance director, defy the trends

McCarthy attacks planners

McCARTHY & STONE, Britain's largest retirement homeransom" by local planning authorities, according to John McCarthy, its chairman (Fraser Nelson writes).

Mr McCarthy said the company's growth is being held back by councillors who make exorbitant financial demands

mission, disregarding central government guidelines. He said: "The planning committees know that many

builders would sooner meet their demands than risk 18month delays to construction. But we are being asked to provide extra funds for playgrounds and bicycle routes. Our residents don't use playgrounds and don't ride bikes. and we are refusing to pay on

principle. The housebuilder has 19 cases subject to an inquiry, Mr McCarthy said so far it is increased to 2.3p (2p), with a cent to 22,909 in October.

has won 97 per cent of its cases 1.75p final, due January 20.

Although there is little

£25,000 for each case. McCarthy & Stone defied the trends in the housing

sector by increasing both margins and volume sales in the year to August 31, when pretax profits rose 19 per cent to £11 million. It sold 906 homes, compared with 858, and lifted gross margin to 35 per cent (33 per cent). However, the value of sales fell by 8 per cent to E61 million, reflecting a higher proportion of one-person homes. A higher tax charge clipped earnings to 7p a share from 7.2p. The total dividend rising rapidly, up 33.69 per is increased to 2.3p (2p), with a cent to 22,909 in October.

UK car output accelerates to record October total

By Kevin Eason, motoring editor

cheer at home, with output for

domestic consumption down 452 per cent, production for

overseas was ahead a healthy

147.17 per cent.

However, that was not enough to turn round the lack

of growth in the commercial.

lorries and buses in the first

ten months of the year was

199,960, 0.43 per cent down on

the January to October figure

European

slowdown

is sapping

for Wagon

WEAK demand in Euro-

pean markets sapped prof-

its at Wagon Industrial in

the six months to Septem-

ber 30, as the car parts and

store fittings group suf-

fered a 13 per cent pre-tax profits fall to £11.1 million.

John Hudson, chief ex-

ecutive, said government

policy discouraging super-

markets to open out-of-town branches had caused

a hill in demand for retail

equipment. He expects a

recovery next year as supermarkets refurbish

The pan-European stor-

age business saw a decline

old stores.

ntas set

estment

Total production of varis,

vehicle market.

PRODUCTION of cars jumped last month as the British motor industry showed signs that its recov-

ery is gathering pace.
Output increased 39.3 per cent last month to 179,963 the highest October total on

Although the surge was underpinned by demand at home — up 22.79 per cent to 74.771 — exports provided the huge boost to British

Production for sales over seas rose 54.02 per cent to 105,192 as orders for new models such as the Coventry-made Jaguar XK8 and Ford's latest Fiesta, which is made at Dagenham in Es-sex, were fulfilled and Japanese manufacturers in the UK - Toyota, Honda and Nissan — continued to increase their shipments to

Europe. Output in the year so far was up to 1,407,515, an increase of 10.02 per cent over the January to October period of last year, underlining evidence that the British motor industry is thriving. Even with domestic sales

stagnant, carmakers have been finding more and more sales overseas. Jaguar, for example, enoyed a record October, with

sales of 4,385 cars, boosted mamly by the launch of the XK8 sports models. Sales of saloons and sports cars in the US reached a ten-year high, while sales around the world

also reached monthly records as the first XK8 models were delivered. Ernie Thompson, the chief executive of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said yesterday: These outstanding produc-

tion figures demonstrate yet again the resurgence of the motor industry in Britain." Meanwhile, production of commercial vehicles is also

in both sales and profits, in spite of having added a £500,000 marketing team in Germany. Mr Hudson said that the team was now trained, and prepared for a recovery.

Earnings were 13.5p a

share compared with 17p. The interim dividend, due on February 20, is held at

Greenway loss

Greenway Holdings, the lubricants and recycled fuels company, incurred a pre-tax loss of £80,000 in-the half year to the September 30, compared with profits of £564,000 in the first half of the previous year. There was a delay in the recovery of fuel oil sales to the power genera-tion sector, leaving sales volume some two million gailons below expectations. The interim is maintained at 0.5p. Directors expect a return to profitability for the financial

CML shrinks

Pre-tax -profits at CML Microsystems, the distrib-utor of electronic equipment, fell to £117,000 from £725,000 in the six months to September 30. Earnings shrunk to 1.35p a share-(3.38p). Again there is no interim dividend. The company has net cash of £8.04 million.

Courtaulds fears effect of strong pound on exports

By CARL MORTISHED

COURTAULDS said yesterday that the strong pound could hurt its export business. The chemicals group reported a decline in pre-tax profits for the half year after difficult markets for acrylic and vis-

Gordon Campbell, chief executive, said he expected margins to remain poor in viscose and said that the strength of sterling was unhelpful.

He said that Courtaulds exported goods worth £218 million from the UK in the half year to September and he indicated that the dollar exchange rate was the problem.

Century Inns cheered by

profits growth STRONG growth in its man-

Century Inns, the independent pub group based in the North East and Yorkshire, to a 23 per cent increase, to £7.1 million. in full-year profits. Overall turnover for the year to September 30 increased 13 per cent. to £24 million. During the year, Cen-tury invested £7 million in the estate and added 28 new outlets, including 18 purchased from Tom Cobleigh for £25 million in April. The maiden final dividend of 4.5p

is payable on January 21.

"We are sitting on a UK manufacturing base with a large part of sales going out of the UK. As for all such businesses, stronger sterling makes us less competitive."

In the half-year to Septem-

ber, pre-tax profits fell from E68 million to £64 million. Operating profits from continuing businesses were up 7 per cent to £80 million and Courtaulds Tencel business went into profit for the first time. Sales of the new fibre were double those of a year ago and the company expects a new Tencel manufacturing plant in Grimsby, South

sioned by the end of next year. Courtaulds is looking for-ward to strong growth in aerospace sealants because of a surge in civil aircraft orders. Coatings and sealants contributed £42 million (£41 million) in operating profits in the half year while polymer products rose from £10 million to £12 million. The fibres business grew 12 per cent to £27 million. Courtaulds is increasing the half-year dividend from 4.3p to 4.45p after earnings of 10.6p (11.3p).

Humberside, to be commis-

Tempus, page 30



No sign of motor rate upturn

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

MOTOR insurance rates could stay low until March next year as competing insurers play a game of brinkmanship with one another, it was claimed

AA Insurance, which has a panel of 30 insurers, and CE Heath, the international broker, both said yesterday that there was little sign of the upturn in rates which the industry had been hoping for.

The AA said a rise in personal motor premiums was unlikely until the first quarter of next year, while Heath said it was impossible to predict when the

some direct insurers, have been trying to raise rates in order to stem underwriting losses. "It is a game of brinkmanship and the first to raise rates loses business to rivals," a spokeswoman for the AA said.

Insurers are also worried at the prospect that the Chancellor may decide to more than double insurance premium tax from 25 per cent to 5 or 6 per cent in nest week's Budget. This would be effective from April, just as rates are predicted to start rising.

CE Heath's comments came as the broker announced interim profits before tax and exceptional items had almost

upturn in the cycle would begin. A halved to £3.4 million (£6.4 million). After exceptional items the interim profit was exceptional items the interim profit was £4.6 million, up from £10.3 million:

Earnings per share were down from 40 to 3.1p, but last year's figure was higher because it included profits from computer-services, now floated off as a separate company, and underwriting, which is no longer part of the group.

In the six months to September 30 overall brokerage rose 9 per cent and underlying UK expenses fell 3 per cent. Premium Search; the broker's telephone sales operation, reduced its operating loss from £2.2 million to £700,000 million over the six months and is expected to break even by next March.

Stay in Style. Istay in budget.

strongly, to £151.6 million.

helped by a recovery in de-

mand, good progress with

ergonomic office furniture and

the purchase, in July, of Wright Products, a North

American door and window

sion, which includes convey-

ors and balers, increased profits from £14.7 million to

E17.1 million in spite of sales

slipping back to £130.8 mil-lion. FKI said that it had

received fewer orders from the

UK coal industry and from the

US scrap paper business.
In spite of difficult trading conditions, profits from the engineering division rose by 18

per cent, to £6.5 million, on

The automotive division,

which makes cabling for car

manufacturers, was the only

division to record a fall in

profits, making £4.7 million down from £5.3 million last year. Mr Whalley said that the

division had seen a big rise in orders, but that this had yet to

show through because of costs

of buying new equipment and

FKI, which earns most of its

money outside the UK, has re-

organised its overseas businesses to allow it to pay its first

foreign income dividend of

3.1p a share. This compares with last year's net interim dividend of 2.2p, which was

equivalent to 2.75p when the tax credit was included.

Qantas seeks ways to lift

investment from overseas

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

Tempus, page 30.

recruiting new staff.

sales of £80.5 million.

The material handling divi-

hardware business.

FKI, the engineering group

that recently bought the Hawker Siddeley electric pow-

er business from BTR yester-day reported a 30 per cent

improvement in its first-half

FKI plans a substantial reorganisation to improve profits of the Hawker Siddeley

business, including the possible closure of its loss-making overseas operations. Bob Beeston, FKI's chief executive.

said that it was too early to

estimate the cost of the

restructuring.

Jeff Whalley, chairman, said that FKI had strength-

ened the management of the

engineering division, under its

chairman, James Beckett. To-

gether with its other recent

purchase, the Italian firm of

Marelli Motori, the £182 mil-

lion Hawker Siddeley deal has

made the engineering division

FKI's largest business. Mr Whalley made clear that

the deals had not dulled FKI's

appetite for further acquisi-

tions, even though borrowings

now represent about 65 per

cent of the £382 million of

shareholders' funds. He add-

ed: "We are in discussions

most of the time. We hope to

be able to make some progress in the next six months." The

next purchase is unlikely to be

The profits improvement in

the six months to September

30 was led by FKI's hardware

division, whose operating profits rose from £18.5 million

to £25.1 million. Sales grew

in engineering.

profits, to £51.4 million.

Holdings

BRUNEL Holdings, the engi-

neering group previously known as BM Group, in-

curred pre-tax losses of £20.86

million in the year to the end

of June after a £23.4 million

charge against the disposal of

But with operating profits

from continuing businesses holding steady at £8.3 million.

compared with £8.8 million,

the company is maintaining the annual dividend at 0.5p a

share, payable from adjusted

In the previous year pre-tax profits were £17 million and

earnings were 13.7p a share. Turnover increased 29 per

Analysts were encouraged

to see increased sales figures,

but were sceptical that the

company had fully succeeded

in shaking off the aftermath of

its acquisition of Blackwood

undisclosed sum a lengthy

and expensive legal dispute

with Hambros Bank, which

Cliff Walker, Brunel chief

executive, said: "We're now

almost at a situation where we

have reasonably focused busi-

nesses operating at a profit."

He added that Brunel's

immediate objectives were

low-debt, lower-geared busi-

nesses that were largely ex-

Group borrowings dropped over the year to £27.8 million,

compared with £32.7 million

for the preceding year.

advised on the acquisition.

Brunel has settled for an

earnings of 1.3p a share.

cent to £151 million.

Hodge in 1991.

port-oriented.

discontinued businesses.

e##.

has a 25 per cent interest, is exploring ways to increase the availability of its shares to foreign investors. The move is an attempt to improve the performance of the share price. Gary Pemberton, chairman, said

QANTAS, the Australian air-

line in which British Airways

yesterday. The shares have languished around the A\$2 Mr Pemberton told the annual meeting that while de-

mand from Australian institutions had weakened, demand from overseas institutions. which are limited to holding 49 per cent of the stock, had been strong.

He said: "Clearly it raises

the issue again of foreign ownership and the problems of limited availability and liquidity of stock for major foreign investors. We have (95p) mark since flotation at done a lot of work on this the views of a cross section of domestic and international in-

vestors." Mr Pemberton hopes to develop a solution by next August.

However, he insisted that Oantas would not be creating from overseas price competifrom domestic to foreign

acquisition of the fire-protec-

separate classes of shares for Industries, the building matedomestic and foreign invesrials group, for A\$220 million tors, saying: "In a two-class (£110 million). system, foreign shares would sell at a premium, domestic Chubb's purchase of James shares would be insulated Hardie's Australian security monitoring and manpower tion and there would effectbusiness last December and business of Mayne Nickless

the Australian market FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN SYDNEY CHUBB Security made a fur-David Peacock, Chubb's chief ther foray into the Australian executive, said this latest acmarket yesterday with the quisition would establish the

Bob Beeston, left, and Jeff Whalley yesterday, when FKI unveiled £51.4 million profits

for A\$41 million in May.

group as a leading provider of tion arm of James Hardie fire-protection products and services in the Asia-Pacific region and substantially develop its position in access The acquisition follows control.

Even before this acquisition Chubb's operations in Australia and New Zealand accounted for almost a quarter of its by Chubb, known at present

Chubb locks further into

as James Hardie Building Services, manufactures, distributes and installs fire-protection and safety equipment in Australia and New Zealand. In the year to March 1996 it achieved a pre-tax profit of A\$5.9 million on sales of about A\$242 million. It has total net assets of A\$75 million and employs about 1.700

Only last month James

Fardie said that profits for the The business being bought current year to March 1997

would be lower than expected.

Losses of BUSINESS ROUNDUP £20.8m at **Brunel**

Bradford Property jumps to £14.2m

BRADFORD PROPERTY TRUST, the owner of tenated residential property, achieved a 21 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £14.2 million in the six months to October 5. Gross rental income rose 26 per cent to £15 million and revenues from property sales was up 45 per cent to £13.8 million. The company is increasing the interim dividend by 8.6 per cent to 3.8p a share, payable from earnings that rose to 6.46p a share from 5.4p. The shares rose 4p to 2422p.

Philip Warner, chairman, said housing activity had improved during the summer and autumn, and vacant possession values were rising. The recovery had been sustained but regional variations remained, with some areas experiencing no signs of growth. The company spent £6.1 million on residential properties. It also acquired office property in Epsom, Surrey, for £2.5 million and took a 9.76 per cent interest in Mountview Estates, a residential property company, for £5.9 million.

Southnews advances

ORGANIC growth and an acquisition helped Southnews, the local newspaper publisher, to increase pre-tax profit 36 per cent to £2.68 million, from £1.97 million, in the six months to September 28. Turnover rose 39 per cent to a record £18.4 million, from £13.2 million. Although much of this growth arose from the inclusion of the Croydon Advertiser Group for the first time, the underlying growth rate was 12 per cent. An interim dividend of 2.25p a share (1.76p) will be paid on January 10.

Birkdale back in black

BIRKDALE GROUP, the marketing services company, returned to profit in the half-year to the end of September, earning £241,000 before tax, compared with a £1.15 million loss. Earnings were 0.2p a share, against losses of 1.2p. There is again no dividend. The company has strengthened its balance sheet, raising £2.5 million through a placing and open offer and now enjoys a positive operating cash flow. Turnover was £6 million (£6.9 million).

Kalamazoo up 16%

KALAMAZOO COMPUTER GROUP, the supplier of specialist computer solutions and printer of security and business forms, earned pre-tax profits of £2.3 million in the half-year to the end of September, up 16 per cent from £2 million previously. The interim dividend is 9 per cent higher at 1.2p, payable from earnings that rose to 3.72p a share (3.66p). At the operating level profits improved to £2.5 million from £1.6 million.

Record for Sterling

STERLING INDUSTRIES, the precision hydraulic and thermal process engineering company, achieved record interim pre-tax profits of £5 million in the six months to the end of September, a 29 per cent rise on the first half of the previous year. Earnings increased to 10.73p a share from 9.56p. The interim dividend is lifted to 3.2p a share from 2.8p. The company ended the first half with net cash of £7.8 million.

Tinsley raises interim

TINSLEY ROBOR, the supplier of printed packaging for the music and multimedia industries, has raised its interim dividend 20 per cent, to 0.9p a share, after a 19 per cent advance in pre-tax profits to £1.8 million in the six months to September 30. But the effect of June's rights issue meant earnings were little changed at 3.9p a share, compared with 3.7p. Turnover was 17 per cent higher, at \$24.9 million. Shaun Lawson, chairman, said the second half had started encouragingly.

FKI plans revamp to improve

profits at Hawker Siddeley

ACCOUNTANCY

Ruling is a reason to cheer

The European Court of Justice deserves praise for its verdicts

on VAT, says Richard Watson

t is not often that the boardrooms of Britain ring to the praises of the European Court of Justice, especially just now. But last month it did more to reduce the value-added tax burden on British industry than the Chancellor will probably do in next week's Budget. VAT is essentially a Euro-

pean tax, so British VAT legislation is subject to review by the European Court. Two com-panies, Elida Gibbs, which is a subsidiary of Unitever, and Argos have been fighting their corner for several years and eventually reached the European Court, which overruled not only previous UK court decisions, but also the opinion of its own Advocate General

The fundamental arguments in both cases concerned a point of principle: whether the tax charged should relate to the amount of cash received. At first glance the answer would seem to be obvious, but, the fact that it has taken 23 years to sort these issues out suggests that in VAT terms it was certainly not

Apart from this common principle, the two cases are different. The Elida Gibbs case concerned money-off coupons issued by a manufacturer, distributed to consumers entitling them to a discount on buying a product from a retailer. The retailer accounts for VAT only on the discounted amount, but sends the coupon to the manufacturer for redemption. On redeeming the coupon, it accounts for tax on that amount. Customs would thus receive

the full amount of VAT. The manufacturer would have received the original price paid by the retailer, plus VAT, but less the amount that it paid to redeem the coupon. Because that latter amount was regarded as tax-inclusive, it would have paid a larger amount of VAT than it should have done in relation to the amount of cash received.

The European Court said this was wrong - the payment by the manufacturer to the retailer was in effect a retrospec-tive discount on the original supply of the goods to the retailer. The manufacturer should thus reduce its VAT bill by the VAT in the amount paid to the retailer - whether or not the sale is direct or through a

This is good news for manufacturers. They will be relieved of a burden of VAT that they should never have borne and will be able to reclaim at least

La Francisco



Richard Watson says the issues have taken 23 years to resolve

three years' worth of that Argos, is different and perhaps additional VAT. Had it not been for the Government's announcement of a three-year limit on refunds, they would (records permitting) have been able to reclaim such amounts back to the start of the tax. The second case, that of

not so wide reaching. Argos sells vouchers that can be redeemed at face value in its stores. Sometimes it sells these vouchers at a discount to employers, which then give them to their employees. When the employee goes to the Argos store to spend the voucher, he receives the face value, but Argos has received only the discounted amount. It not unreasonably argued that, on that basis, it should account for VAT only on the lower amount. Again, the European Court agreed.

These two cases highlight three separate points. The first is that the European Court is the ultimate arbiter of VAT legislation. The second is that VAT should be charged on the amount of cash received by the supplier, even when that amount is reduced by subsequent events.

Finally, these two cases highlight the inequity of the Government's new three-year rule. Both manufacturers that issue coupons and retailers on the same lines as Argos have suffered over the years from a burden of taxation that should not have occurred.

Customs and Excise has estimated the revenue loss from these two cases at £70 million for three years, but this is a notoriously difficult area to estimate. Without the threeyear limit, the total payout could approach £500 million. Either way, it is good news

for industry and reinforces the fact that VAT is a tax on consumer expenditure, not a tax on business. So, for once, let us hear it for

the European Court of Justice. Richard Watson is head of VAT at Price Waterhouse

sense approach. The Royal Family's popularity ratings will rise again soon.

TERESA GRAHAM, of Baker Tilly, has made her way to the fore at Workplace 2000 — the English ICA's project that provides help on workplace issues. Graham has become chairman and has some revolutionary ideas. "I am planning to look at the promotion of chartered accountancy as a 'family-friendly' profession," she said.

Technology will give tax system more logic

ROBIN COOKE-HURLE is one of the brightest minds in the tax business. And in some ways he is doing more to simplify tax than any number of committees attempting to rewrite the basic legislation. He runs Taxsoft, which as you might expect, produces innovative tax

This week, days before the Budget, is when people wonder again quite what we can do about the tax system. Cooke-Hurle thinks along those lines. But his prognosis, which we will come to later, is very different to most.

One of the noisiest broadsides against the

tax system has just been published by Ernst & Young, which is building quite a reputation for coming up with perceptive views and then expressing them in a pretty unequivocal manner. This latest, Heaven Can Wait - but taxpayers can't, covers the reform of taxation of employees.

It traces the development of such taxes. "In the beginning," it says, "there was a simple tax, expressed in straightforward language.

Now it is far from simple. It is no longer a tax on profits from employment. It is a chaotic scrap heap of arbi-trary rules piled higgledy-piggledy on top of each other, as successive legislators have contributed ad hoc solutions to real or perceived problems at the margin, until the overall structure has become no structure at all. Just an ever-growing mass of muddle and obscurity.

That is the current situation, succinctly put. But the tax system is not just out of cultural step with a simpler business society. It lags far behind in terms of the way people work and the technology of everyday business life. As another part of Ernst &

Young's excellent pamphlet says: "While management gurus and the human resources specialists tell us about the need for flexible remuneration packages, and semidetached working arrangements, the tax system has only just caught up with the notion that these days most people don't commute on horseback. The system of taxation of employment income," it says, "has become hopelessly outmoded and bureaucratic. The introduction of self-assessment

will exacerbate the situation." That also is true. At Somerset House this week the Inland Revenue ran a brief presentation on the next steps in the self-assessment saga. Officials were emollient and charming. They emphasised again and again that they

were leaning over backwards to get the system running as smoothly as a fundamental change in the method of taxing just under a quarter of taxpayers in the country can be. The Revenue is doing a good job on self-assessment. The problem is that it is the wrong form of tax system.

All the chaos of the tax system will in future be collated and reorganised. This will not be done by tax simplification committees or even by the Inland Revenue. The forces for change will simply be technology and business methods.

One evening this year. Robin Cook-Hurle was walking through the City with a couple of friends after a traditional City dinner in one of the livery halls. And as they found themselves walking past numerous other liv-ery halls a thought struck them. All of these mighty halls had been built by businesses which were subsequently destroyed by technology. The same will also be true of the tax business. In part, last week's report from the

English ICA on where the profession will be in the year 2005 covered this point. "We believe that tax compliance services have some limited scope for expansion," it said.
"But we also believe that tax compliance will be an unattractive area for many practitioners — except possibly as a semi-detached adjunct to the main practice of those able to exploit technology to handle high volumes profitably." Tax planning and high-level expert advice will continue to be a growth area. The basic compliance work within tax will be computerised and only the advice side of the business will be left. A few clever advisers will eval-

Robert BRUCE

uate the possibilities. Tax

strategy is already moving to the centre of businesses rather than being the province of backroom specialists.

But, as Cooke-Hurle tends to point out. computer systems are unforgiving. This is where the way in which compliance work is done will drive the revolution in the tax system. "Total logic forces out and exposes the flaws in the legislation."

This is where the Holy Grail of tax simplification lies. Legislation will not be able to be enacted if it is too complex and too flawed in the future. Once the tax compliance system is run by technology, the changes that a Chancellor traditionally makes as a result of the Budget and the subsequent Finance Bill will have to conform to a logical system at last.

All for the sake of a brand

THE business of valuing brands has always been an. embarrassment to fastidious accountants. Johnnie Walker whisky, as Sir David Tweedie of the Accounting Standards Board is fond of telling us. has been around for longer than the United States of America. But the idea of sticking brands in balance sheets and then urying to assess an annual increase or decrease in their value has always proved a thorny problem. The Institute

ing has just produced a review of current practice written by David Haigh. And in an appendix he quotes some recent American examples. In percentage changes to their deemed value the brand of Remy Martin has fallen 24 per cent in the year, while Johnnie Walker Red Label rose 4 per cent. Gilbey's gin fell 20 per cent.

while its stablemate, Bombay

game of Scrabble rose 5 per of Practitioners in Advertiscent, while Trivial Pursuit fell 5 per cent. It is small wonder that brand valuation is a game that accountants would rather

Royal saviour

THE Royal Family is saved. The iron discipline of past eras is to be brought to bear. Phyllida Dare is to take on the administrative duties in Gin, rose 40 per cent. The the Prince of Wales's office

out by the famous Tiggy Legge-Bourke. What, you may ask, is this news doing in an accountancy diary column? Simple. Dare's father was the legendary Lord Benson. He built the firm of Coopers into the mighty business it is today. He was a fine president of the English ICA. And he brought the idea of accounting standards to fruition. And he did it all with the utmost of strong leadership and a stern no-non-

that were previously carried

Graham's way

ROBERT BRUCE

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CINEMA Lon Chaney is restored to his hideous best as the 1925 Phantom of the Opera is

screened in London



MUSIC 1 The Kronos Quartet sound a little colourless as they close the American Festival on the South Bank

THEXITIMES



MUSIC 2 . but Roger

Norrington léads the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment in boisterous style



MUSIC 3

and the veteran Spanish soprano Teresa Berganza is in superb form at the Wigmore Hall

"A SUPERB FILM"

"SEE IT NOW, NOW, NOW, NOW, NOW."

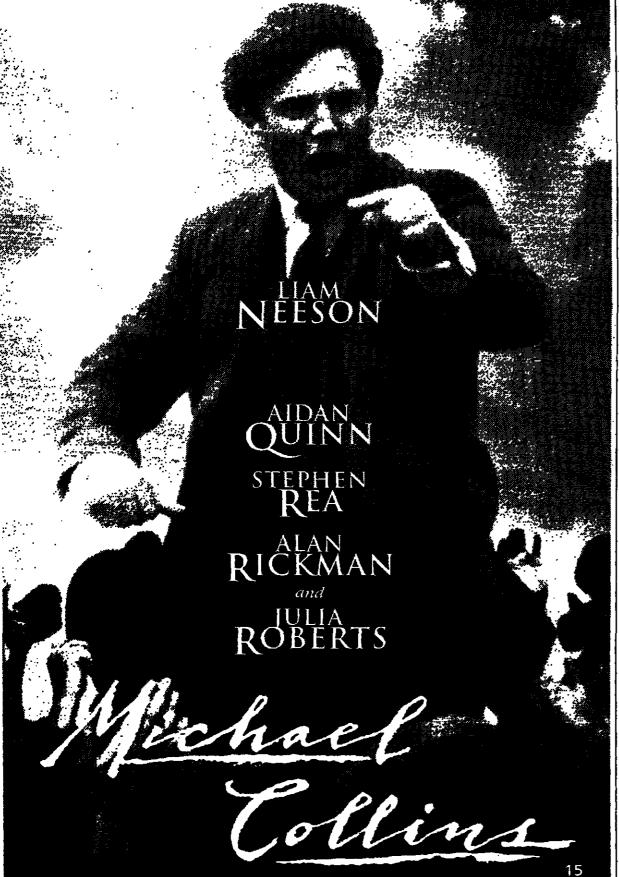
"DYNAMIC...ENGROSSING

among the best we're likely to see this year."

"A CRACKING GOOD MOVIE

that's full of action and adventure."





A NEIL JORDAN FILM











AND ACROSS THE COUNTRY CALLER IN

Screams in silence

Geoff Brown

welcomes a new screening of the

1925 Phantom

of the Opera

Paris Opera. Chorus girls blanch and scuttle away. Stagehands suddenly appears against a brick wall. The word spreads quickly: "The Phantom is up from the cellars again!" These days Erik, the phan-tom of the opera, never seems

night the misshapen creature prowls the world's theatres in Andrew Lloyd Webber's musinovel. And now Lon Chaney comes back to haunt us, courtesy of Universal's silent

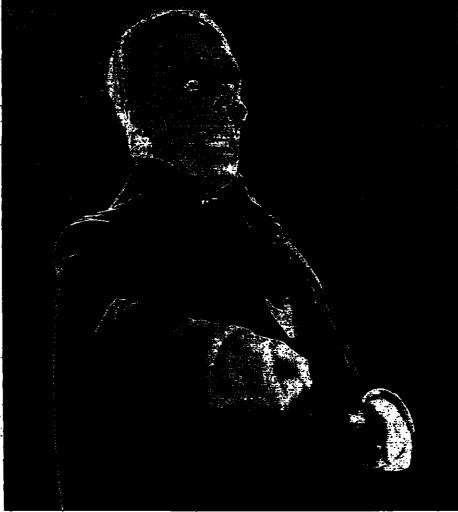
At the Festival Hall tomor ow, as part of the London Film Festival, a newly restored version from Channel 4 and Photoplay Productions will be unveiled, with an orchestral accompaniment composed and conducted by Carl Davis.

One American trade review-er considered Universal's production "probably the greatest inducement to nightmare that has yet been screened". Seven ty years on, tomorrow's audi-ence will probably enjoy a restful night after the screening. Even the celebrated descent of the chandelier looks

But several sequences still produce a genuine frisson. The masked ball, originally shot in two-colour Technicolor and restored with the aid of survivinterior set of the Paris Opera. Suddenly, down the Grand Stairway, the phantom app-ears as the Red Death, his face a hideous grinning skull.

Another moment transpires on the opera house roof, when the phantom's scarlet cloak whirls around the night sky: a sequence originally tinted by an obscure process named Handschiegl, and recreated to impressive effect by the miracle of digital technology.

The third occurs when the phantom lures his soprano protégèe Christine Dasé, Up to now, Chancy's features have been half-hidden. swathed in a cloak, or obscured by a mask. The phan-



Lon Chancy, the man of a thousand faces; as the phantom in the 1925 film version

touch a thing. This gives his is face the hure of formisden fruit. and Christine impulsively

tears away the mask.
The camera takes the audience's viewpoint and we see the horror before she does: a skewered nose, distended nostrils, craggy teeth, hollow eyes, hollower cheeks with cheekbones almost poking through the wizened skin. Then the phantom turns round and Christine sees the horror.

No other film version makes the phantom's unmasking so memorable. None has created a phantom capable, against the odds, of touching your heart. For this, Chaney must take most of the credit. He has a clear talent for pantomime, and an ability to humanise the most deformed creatures.

Gaston Leroux - detective novelist, journalist and inveterate traveller - needs salutsurvives the years no matter what havoc adaptors wreak. In the original novel of 1910, Erik was a circus freak who had helped build the Paris Opera; in Chaney's version, he

Universal remake he is a bitter composer, disfigured by acid.

he setting balances the realistic with the fantastic. Beneath the ornate public spaces of the Paris Opera lurk unsuspected lakes, silhouettes that give you the shivers, and a phantom hideaway festooned with plush drapery and the odd open coffin. This dream world, built to designs by Ben Opera, unwittingly created a

Phantom that followed.
Rupert Julian, the director of the 1925 version, was a journeyman talent who found stepped in to finish Erich von Stroheim's Merry-go-Round in 1923. He celebrated his rise to fame by adopting Stroheim's vices: acting autocratic, and shooting endless retakes. After a disastrous preview, the

visual template for every

erns and comedies. Edward Sedgwick, at the helm.

The film was overhauled in 929, being reissued as a partscreams. A silent reissue was also prepared, and it is this today in the best condition and forms the basis for the Photoplay restoration. Moves are now afoot in America to restore the original 1925 release, which only survives complete on 16mm.

floating around. In 1993. shortly before he died, the composer Roy Budd completed a restoration blessed with a succulent score but cursed with inferior images: the version is now planned for issue on CD and video. It's obvious that the Phantom will haunt

The Phantom of the Opera, with Carl Davis conducting the Live Cinema Orchestra, will be per-formed at the Festival Hall tomorrow at 7.30pm (0171-960 4242)

Veteran

CONCERTS: The Kronos off-key; authentic Romantics; veteran triumph

Howl but little heart

THE American Independents festival came to a conclusion at the Festival Hall with the Kronos Quartet, who more than qualify as American independents. But like some of their adopted composers, they can be better on big ideas than on execution.

It was unfortunate that they followed the Arditti Quartet last week. By comparison, the Kronos sounded colourless. Their ilat, clean articulation, so apt for Minimalist epic and ethnic experiment, made a solemn comedy of ives's

ing was poor.

A big idea lay behind Lee
Hyla's Howl, music written alongside a moto perpetuo recitation of Allen Ginsberg's

student Quartet; even the tun-



The Kronos Quartet: misfiring

ed Howl to be an "emotional time bomb that would continue exploding", then its shockwaves are long gone. In sheer volume the words overwhelmed Hyla's music, little of which drew on the speech rhythms or intonations. Nevertheless, its delicate inven-

tions deserve a fairer hearing.
The Kronos excel in

works which require the cool poise of ritual. Aural ritual became visual theaire in the stunning stag-ing of George Crumb's Black Angels, designed by Larry Neff. Economy means characterises Crumb's fearful masterpiece, inspired by the Vietnam War screeches of "electric insect" music: a muted fragment from Schubert's Death and the

Maiden; the unearthly rasp of a bowed tam-tam; a human voice counting. The staging echoed this restraint. This sonic journey to war has not dated, and Crumb himself was clearly moved by the performance.

HELEN WALLACE

vocal agility

TERESA BERGANZA may be nearing the end of her career, but one wouldn't have known it from the recital she gave to a packed Wigmore Hall. Her tone remains velvety and smooth, and the vocal agility is still there.

Of course, the great Spanish mezzo-soprano knows how to manage her voice. She saved all the risks for the end of the evening. In five generous encores she displayed her celebrated strengths, notably in Rossini's Cruda sortel, sung with commanding ease. Her Habanera from Čarmen had light, laughing seductiveness, and she disclosed more of her wit in the tipsy Ah, quel diner! from La Périchole.

The programme began with an account of Haydn's Arianna a Naxos that came across like a noble operatic scena. Six Rossini songs came next. The early Se il vuol la mulinara had simple charm, the lines of Addio di Rossini were smooth and seamless, and the Arietta alla espagnuola rounded off the group

with cascading brilliance. After the interval Berganza brought soft radiance to Faure's Clair de lune and elegance to his Mandolin. She caught the heartache in Hahn's D'une prison, and conjured up each vivid image in his Paysage Each miniature in Falla's Seven Spanish Popular Songs was stronglycharacterised. The final Polo: had Moorish fire, and it was aspecial treat to hear Berganza sing in her native tongue. --

JOHN ALLISON

Colossus at the keyboard

ALEXEI LUBIMOV is one of the more remarkable figures to bestride the old and new Russia. A leprechaun of a man, he is a Colossus of a musician. The virtuosity of his fingers is testament to his being one of the last piano pupils of the great Heinrich Neuhaus who taught Sviatoslav Richter. Yet Lubirnov also gave the Moscow premiere of works by John Cage in 1968 and, in the years when he was denied permission to perform outside the Soviet Union, he studied and pioneered period keyboard performance.

It was as a forteplanist that he appeared at the Queen Elizabeth Hall with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment and Roger Norrington in Berthoven's Piano Concerto No 1 in C. Using one of Olga Tverskaya's instruments, a copy of a Viennese 1823 Brodmann fortepiano, Lubimov drew back his first solo entry into a limpid, romantic reflection.

A highly stylised and idiomatic rubato gave sustaining power to the slow movement, and was an eloquent partner to the full-throated song of Antony Pay's solo clarinet. Under Norrington, the movement was nearer an andante than a largo, so the finale had to be no less than a presto. To the credit of every player, it retained its scherzan-

framed by Mendelssohn: first a marvellously aquaeous clarinet-led Melusine overture, then the Scottish Symphony. Taking scarcely a breath between movements, Norrington performed the work rather as a suite of Highland dances. The slow movement made

its effect by the plangency of its minimal string vibrato and the austerity of its woodwind chording. The bassoons andnatural horns were pushed excitingly to their limits in a finale whose bagpipe boisterourness caused much amusement within the orchestra and delight in the auditorium.





■ NEW FILMS

Kansas City offers jazz, sleaze and kidnapping, but the cocktail is not vintage Robert Altman



■ NEW FILMS

.. whereas the comedy thriller Mr Reliable displays the cream of the new Aussie talent



NEW FILMS

David Mamet's American Buffalo receives big-screen intensity from a cast led by **Dustin Hoffman**



NEW FILMS

. while in The Sunchaser Michael Cimino turns a road movie into pretentious social commentary

CINEMA: The jazz running through Robert Altman's Kansas City fails to lift the spirits, says Geoff Brown

Sour smell of jam and corruption

ome on, boys, let's hear some music! So says Har-ry Belafonte's Seldom Seen, gangster lord of the Hey Hey Club, the Depression-era hotbed of jazz in Robert Altman's Kansas City. And so we do. Jazz musicians jam all night, and lock horns in duels. Modern representations of Lester Young and Coleman Hawkins battle with their saxohones, while young Charlie Parker looks on from the balcony. The camera swerves from player to olayer. Our feet tap. It's hard not to feel exhilarated.

Yet Robert Altman's problematic new film, financed by the French company CIBY 2000, is far from being a festive salute to the music the director knew as a child in Kansas City, his home town. The jazz sessions serve as interludes in a sour portrait of corruption, political and social: the American dream turned into a nightmare. The year is 1934; the time, just before national elections. A kidnapping is in progress. Blondie O'Hara, a telegraph operator who has seen too many Jean Harlow movies. aims a gun and captures socialite Carolyn Stilton, the laudanumdrenched wife of a Roosevelt aide. Her goal? The release of her worthless husband Johnny, a twobit hood currently being tortured by Belafonte.

Sounds interesting? Think again. Blondie is played by Jennifer Jason Leigh, who has delved into her bag of mannerisms to come up with a new squawk and grimaces galore. She makes the character tiresome; though Altman's wayward script, co-written with his Short Cuts colleague Frank Barhydt, scarcely helps Blondie's mission by erasing background details and rendering her husband so colourless. But there is some good news. Blandie kidnaps Miranda Richardson, a sensible actress fully alert to the comic potential of a socialite dragged over town, befuddled by drugs. Belafonte is absorbing too. swathing his gangster in a chilling version of the easy charm once lavished on such songs as Mary's

edge towards friendship, and jazz riffs spiral into the smoky air. Altman fills the gaps in between with mob thuggery, some of it perpetrated by Steve Buscerni as he pads out the voters with cartloads of drunks and homs. Altman has described the entire film as imbued with jazz: the actors, he says, do riffs as much as the musicians, as their talk wanders from the plot. But we associate jazz with vitality: iam sessions aside, there is too much cold artifice and misanthropy in Altman's creation for anyone

to be uplifted for long. The film also looks artificial. Period cars prowl those tidy streets that only exist on a Hollywood set. Inside the Hey Hey Club, every-thing is brown. On a technical level Stephen Altman's production design may be exemplary, but it displays neither a poetic imagina-tion nor the hard edge of reality. You never feel you are in Kansas City. You never feel Robert Altman was there either, he could have dreamt up this place from other people's movies:



Tiresome kidnapper Jennifer Jason Leigh squawks and grimaces while her victim, Miranda Richardson, exploits her character's comic potential in Kansas City

time is 1968. The location: a nondescript suburb of Sydney. baking in the summer heat. Wally Mellish, a petty criminal just out of prison, rents a house. "Don't worry about No 5 Glenfield Road," he tells the owner, "nothing's going to happen there." But that is before he fires a shotgun at police investigat-ing the theft of crests from Jaguar cars (he needed them for mantelpiece ornaments).

The police overreact, and assume he is holding a woman and child hostage. The woman is his new girlfriend Beryl. Suddenly we have a siege; and the area buzzes with onlookers, the media, entrepreneurs selling sausages, hapless cops, and the best in late Sixties hair and clothing. Meanwhile, Wally and Beryl get married, with the Police Commissioner as best man. He later becomes a hostage himself: "Milk or sugar, Mr Allen?" Beryl asks, a gun pointing

into his mouth. Ever since her first feature. Malcolm, the Australian director Nadia Tass has been partial to

Kansas City ABC Shaftesbury Ave, 15, 115 mins Crime and corruption plus lots of jazz in Robert Altman's home town

Mr Reliable Warner West End, 15, 113 mins Engaging true-life Aussie comedy

American Buffaio Metro, 15, 90 mins Powerful adaptation of David Mamet's play

The Sunchaser Warner West End, 15, 123 mins Windy Michael Cimino film

> ICA Cinema, 75 mins Poetic jewel from Iran

whimsical comedy about misfits. But Mr Reliable is no scriptwriter's fancy: the bizarre events actually happened, and the film fruitfully Jacqueline McKenzie's perforfeeds off the protest feelings stirred by the Vietnam War. Mellish, mance, following turns in Romper played with ebullient charm by Stomper and Angel Baby, confirms Colin Friels, becomes a modern folk hero, a simple, uneducated Aussie who makes clowns of the

hated Establishment. Tass develops the tale with due regard for comedy and suspense, and never allows the characters to decline into caricature. The forces of law and order, the media hounds, the prickly neighbours: all have their place in the sun. And Beryl herself is a winner, a spunky lass determined to enjoy domestic bliss even during siege warfare.

her position as one of Down Under's rising stars. "You tire me out, Walt. I need a rest." So do we after a dose of Dustin Hoffman in American Buffalo. Entering the film kicking litter, and looking immaculately grungy with stubble and stringy hair, Hoffman's small-time hustler

lets loose an avalanche of words.

dumps his own mountain too. For this is David Mamet country. People talk, And talk, And talk. They talk about business, loyalty and friendship; and they talk dirty. But what else would you expect? This is a film of Mamet's early play (1975), and any opening out would weaken its force. Aside from a few street exteriors, we remain locked in the junk-shop overnight, as Donny and Walt plan to rob a customer who had hought a collector's item, a buffalo-headed nickel, at too cheap a price. Donny wants to use his young gofer (Sean Nelson) and cut him in on the

profits; Walt has other ideas, and is not above wrecking the shop to make his point. Michael Corrente, the director, has a definite feeling for the dingier kind of small-town lives: he showed this in Federal Hill. But American Buffalo belongs to Mamet's script and the actors. Hoffman is impressive, though he lacks the dynamism Al Pacino brought to the stage role in London; while Franz displays a

depth scarcely suggested by his TV

sombre for wide acceptance: quality is there, though.

f American Buffalo hems you in, Michael Cimino is more than happy to show you wide open spaces in The Sunchaser, his first film in six years. This is a road movie with pretensions, driven by two charac-ters at loggerheads. One is Woody Harrelson, a priggish LA doctor: the other is Jon Seda, a cancerstricken teenager who escapes prison transportation, kidnaps the doc. and forces him to drive to a Navajo mountain for spiritual salvation.

Cimino means to turn their journey into a report on the state of the nation. He fills the screen with clever arrangements of rock, sand and Tarmac, and some choice visual conceits. Note the American flag carefully reflected in the car's smashed side-view mirror. But Charles Leavitt's script cannot sustain the weight Cimino applies: any serious ideas are half-baked, and cliches multiply as doc and patient head for the hills. "It's been real."

□ KANSAS CITY

Ben Peters, 22: I found Jennifer Jason Leigh so annoying in this I almost walked out. She was ludicrously over-the-top.

Lucy Knight, 22: I'm a big Robert Altman fan, but I found this a bit of a let-down. It felt a bit too contrived.

Richard Wright, 20: I don't like jazz at all, so I found much of this ouite dull.

Holly Peters, 20: Not my cup of tea. It was unnecessarily complicated, and I found Jennifer Jason Leigh bugged me as much as she did in Mrs Parker.

☐ MR RELIABLE

Ben: Although not as funny as other recent Australian comedies. this is worth a look. Colin Friels is excellent.

Lucy: Not too bad, although I found the humour a bit wearing. Richard: This didn't split my sides. but occasionally made them ache. It kept me gripped as well. Holly: This will be a perfect film to rent on video. I can't believe anybody would fail to laugh.

□ THE SUNCHASER Ben: I'm surprised Cimino thought

he needed to make another buddy movie. Thumbs down. Lucy: Although the performances were good. I felt that the film was a bit lightweight.

Richard: I enjoyed this and even found it quite moving. Woody Harrelson was well up to his best. Holly: I thought much of this was a bit dull, especially as I find films about men crying boring.

Seda says as the two take their

Gabbeh is half-real, half-fantastic. Mohsen Makhmalbaf, one of Iran's liveliest directors, began by wanting to make a documentary about the carpet-weaving tribes of south-east Iran. But a story intruded, and the film took flight. becoming an extraordinary visual experience bathed, like the tribe's clothes, in the brightest of colours:

turquoise, pink, purple, yellow. The tribe's brand of carpet. known as "gabbeh", traditionally documents their own experiences. Makhmalbaf follows suit, and the story he tells of a young woman kept from marrying the man she loves finds its way into the gorgeous carpet woven before us. Most Iranian cinema seen in Britain has followed the realist line: Makhmalbaf, 40 next year, opens a window on to a poetic tradition. A schoolteacher reaches out to the sky to explain about colour: his hand becomes blue. A single figure stands in a landscape of snow and hills. Man and nature, art and life: they all become fused in Gabbeh, a small jewel of pure cinema.

JAZZ: High volume dims Marisa Monte's lyrics at the Barbican; plus Marion Montgomery at Pizza On The Park

Tor the second time in ⊢ less than a week a singer came unstuck due to a woeful sound mix. What made Marisa Monte's Oris Jazz Festival show at the Barbican even more frustrating than Carmen Lundy's earlier concert was that so much care had been lavished on a video installation which,

Brief glimpses of sensuality

to be honest, added little to our appreciation of the songs. How ironic, then, that the Brazilian vocalist's new alburn should be called A Great Noise. Even allowing for the

the volume levels dropped, it struggle to decipher the lyrics was possible to appreciate amid the churning over-amexactly why this tirelessly eclectic performer has been plification of Monte's guitarsacclaimed as one of the spiriand-drums backing. On the rare occasions when tual heirs to Caetano Veloso and Gilberto Gil (a link that

borrowing of the song Panis et Circensis). RICHARDSON

Following their example, Monte borrows heavily from the vocabulary of Western pop, even throwing in a graceful cover version of George Harrison's Give Me

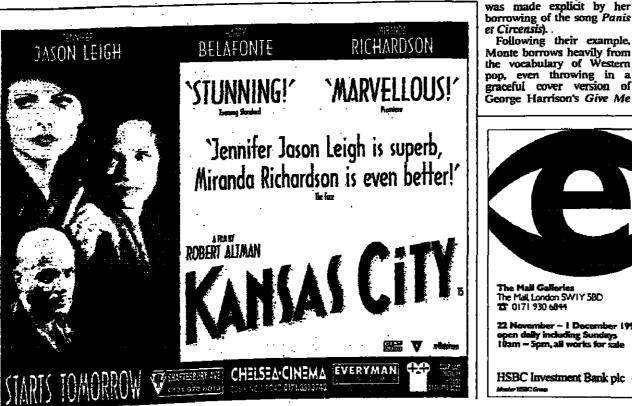
performance, though, she runs the risk of allowing the remorseless four-square rock beat to smother her sensuous heritage. It may be naive to long for the tone poems of ipanema, but some of us prefer nostalgia to the smoke stacks of Sao Paulo.

That there is nothing to be ashamed of in looking to the past was illustrated by Martribute to Johnny Mercer at Pizza On The Park. Mercer's

lyrics are a distinctive combination of the poetic and the demotic; and Montgomery possesses exactly the right temperament to draw out the full measure of emotion and worldliness in Come Rain Or Come Shine, for instance, or

Blues In The Night. Laurie Holloway's trio arrangements are models of their kind, inventive but never intrusive. Stripped to essentials. Montgomery's stark and vulnerable account of Days of Wine and Roses allowed us to ponder the words as if hearing them for the very first

CLIVE DAVIS









■ CHOICE 1

Alec McCowen leads The Cherry Orchard into the West End

A daily guide to arts

compiled by Gillian Maxey

BIRMINGHAM Se Simon Rottle conducts the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in Wagner's powerful Essience opera, Parsial Petude to Act I and Act III complete. Jim Westgang Schone as Anion's Pout Einner as Parsial, Robert Lloyd as Gumemanz, the City of Birmingham Singpriony Choius and Youth Chorus and the Philamonia Chorus Symphony Half, Broad Street (0121-212 1333), Tonight, 7 30pm (2012).

IPSWICH Premote of Jucith Cook's new play, The Devil's Cardinal labour

new play, The Devil's Cardinal about a local butcher's boy making good. Michael Tudor Barnes plays Thomas: Wolsey — and witat meaths more appropriate to stage his story?
Wolsey Cord Drive (01473 95375)
Coens toright 7 45pm. Then Tue-Fn, 7 45pm. Sat 3pm. mats Wed and Thur (1497 98), 2 30pm. Sat 4pm.

STRATFORD The 1996-97 season at the main house opens with Alas Johnings and Srobhan Redmond playing Benedick and Baainds in Much

THEATRE GUIDE

■ House full, returns only

Some seats available

Seats at all prices

ELSEWHERE

VENUE: Now in preview at the Albery



■ CHOICE 2

Meaty chunks of Parsifal are on Simon Rattle's menu this evening VENUE: Symphony Hall,

Birmingham, tonight

THE



VIDEOS

Trainspotting, the most provocative British film of 1995, is in the shops



RECORDS

John Eliot Gardiner brings: a controversial authentic touch to bear on familiar Beethoven

LONDON

THE CHERRY ORCHARD 4 Inchendous PSC cast, meded by Pendope Witon, Alec McCowen and David Troughton, in a production by Adres Notific Considered the best in nang wentory Alberty St Methn's Lane WC2 (017)-Séa 1730: Prenzer begin teninght 7 30pm (Dems Florember 25, 7pm Trien Iden Sat 7 30pm, mats Wed and Cat terms

EAST IS EAST Co-production with EAST IS EAST Co-panductors with parantal Theater Co- and Birmingham Rup. Asub Man Din a paignant and name success of governing on Salfond in the 1970's as the volungest of several mendings and modern England. Royal Court Upstains at the Ambassadors (Stage), West Sincer, WC2 (0171-965 5000). Opens longfit Jum. Tomorrow, 7pm. Then Mon-Sut, 7 15pm. mats Their said Size 31 30pm.

7 15pm, mats thus, and oir 1,40pm.

New MoVes in Affacan Dance.

Saloba Dance Theathe performs four short new works beginning with.

Travelling, a powerful toto my Bode.

Lasti me company, Laristic director flu Site a pruce for four denders, is followed by Junk Junke another sold for Bode. The company linary, Till, Incompany till and the second travel for motion.

of the larger on Tis tribe Purcell Room | Spoth Bank, SET (9) 71- 969 4242) Tonight and foredrow

■ ART Albert Frency Tom Courtenay and Non Staff in an exceptionally interacting chains about from during inspot an resembrent and an almost albert to harves. Matthew Warchus direct. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Rd. WT2 (1171-349 1736; Tus-Sat, 8pm. mats. Web. 3pm. Sat and Sun, 5pm. CYRANO DE BERGERAC Tom

Mannote plays the cover with the covik in Communicade a celebrated production by Serry Mulgrew Almeida Almeida Street NT (0171-359 44(4) Mon-Sat 7 30pm, mat Set 2pm DEATH OF A SALESMAN Alun Armstrong plays the hollow man defluded by slogans in a competent poduction of Millor's drams Mational Lyrethon, South Bank, SET (0171-928/2252) Torugh-Wed 7 TSpm mats Sat and Wed (2 TSpm In rep

■ HAMLET Michael Maloney a protocody incestices prince in Philip Franks's modern diess production Greenwich, Croome Hall SET0 (0181-858 7755) Mon-Sat, 7 45pm, mai Sat, 2 30pm, Unit November 30

THE HERBAL BED Peter Whelan's thriting exploration around a true incident in the life of Shakaspeare's daughter Moral attitudes questioned. Tove tested: Michael Attenborough directs a splendid cast. PM, Barbican Centre, BC2 (0171-638 8991) Today, 2pm and 7 (5pm In rep

NEW RELEASES

THE DAY THE SUN TURNED COLD (12) Spelibinding Hong Kong drama about lamity wylence, societ love and murder, ser in China's northeast. Curzon Phoenix (0771-369 1721) ◆ THE FIRST WIVES CLUB (PG) Broad comedy about vergetul Manhattan wives, with july parts for Diane'r eaton, Bette Midler and Gold Hawn Director (Hugh Wildom)
Berbican (§) (171-438-891)
Clapham Picture (House (0)171-438-332)
Georas: Kensington (0)1425-914369
Swiss Cottage (0)1425-914369
Phoenix (0)131-353-2233; Ritzy (0)171-737-2(2)1 Screen/Baker Street (0)171-232-777; UCI Whiteleys (§ (0)30-58599) Wirgins: Fulham Road (0)171-375, 3536; Trocadero (§ (0)171-434-9021) an Director Hugh Village

♦ THE ISLAND OF DR MOREAU Empire 2014 983 940 Cocons: Kansington (1425 91499) Plaza Q (1790 82839) UCI Whiteleys Q (1695 92299) Wighns: Fulban Road (1771-179 2626) Trocadero (5171-434 5031)

TRUE BLUE (15) Connects of Fire on the River Theorem is concentional.

☐ OLD WICKED SONGS Boto

Wed 2 30pm, Sat 4pm

□ LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR Not Setten's trainy account of working among a team of schotwiters for comedian Sid Cacsar back in the 1969s Gene Widder plaza Sid Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (017) 494 5040; Mori-Sat, Born, mats Wed 2 20mm Sat som.

LI OLD WICKED SONGS by Host ins returns to the stage to play a Viennese music professor teaching Schumarn to an emogram joung plans? (James Calls) Elgah Moshincky directs John Murans is play, said to be humorous, recommendations. porgnant and arise Gleigud Shalfosbury Avenue W1 (0171-494 5065) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm; mats Tue, 2 30pm, and Sat, 4pm SCROOGE, Anthony Newley back on the West End stage singing the afterole in the Leske Bricusse musical **Dominton**, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 2295) Mon-Sal, 7 30cm.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol •) on release across the country

Ortordis boar race team. With Johan Leyson and Commit Wost Odeon Leicester Square. (1):126 9156831

CURRENT ● BRASSED OFF (15) Tolkshire collier, band lights for survival. Sugary comedy with a lew drops of unogai. With Petc Positethwaite, Tara Frizgerald Ewis McGrego: Drector Mad Herman ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171) 836 6143) Empire (0800-888 911) MGM edu filika) Empire 1990/1988 9111 Indian Balker Street (1917)-959 9172; Odeons: Kensington (01426-914-666) Swiss Cottage (0171-56-3057) Rrizy (0171-772-221) UCI Whiteleys © (0990-82599) Virgins: Fulham Road (0171-570-2636) Haymarket (0171-332-16325

THE EIGHTH DAY (Fig. 89/30/20) eupregramen a nu nar ved by a Down or syndrome sufferir Mauser

Ado About Nothing 1/4/chars 50/c decits, Tim Piper decigns Royal Shakespoare Theatre, Water add (01799 295623), Previews TODAY'S CHOICE

Popul tonight 7 50pm Opens Nov 27 Tpm Joined in rependire by The Micro, Wives or Windson in December (2) YORK Phoenix Dance returns name YORK Phoenix Dancé roturs name to porform a strandating reportors. The company of ten is objectiving 15 years or syich dance with White Pickot Fendula multi-media price. Solito Vindidi is Otoce Concento No.1. Eve si Refundantly observatory for sudceing on Rodin was inspired by the sudceing of Rodin while Containing Ground, by American choiseographers Shapping and Shuth is an attribute suplication of therefore the property of t

LONDON GALLERIES

Alen Cristea Eard Hodiney (617) 439 1860 Authory d'Offay Taraco Myagma Les Mey Post (017) 499 4100) British Museum Mystenes of Ancient Chea (017) 430 1555) Curven H-Dieter Pessah Junctures Recent Works (017) 430 1459; Feetival Hell Mask's '95 (017) 900 4340) Netional Theatre Cazlo (017) 928 2035) Redfern Leon Underwood and his Pripats (017) 734 1720) Regist Acceptage (017) 437 739 Tom Blau Opin Ended, new work from into contemporary pholographers (017) 378 1300)

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Shakespeare to dischale her emotions
for her lather. Sit Michael.
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and Sat. 3pm. 20

□ Whien We are MarkieD Open French Alson Steadman and Leo Mcham head the cast of Jude Holly's production of the Presidy shorgeen Savoy, Strond V/C2 (0171-876 8883, Tue-Sat, 7 30pm, mate Wed, Sat, 3pm

N WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA
WOOLF? Dana Pigg and Dalvid Suprot
in Howard Daves a powerful Almora
production of Alboe's scaning pilay
Aldwych Aldwych WC2 (0) 71-416
6000) Man-Sel, 7 15pm, mats Wod and

LONG RUNNERS □ Blood Srothers Process (317):369
1733) ■ Cats New London (017):405 (072) □ Joison Victoria
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Misérables Palace (017):434 (0309) Misserables 2 passe (9171-434-9909)

Miss Salgon Dury Lare (1711-454-5400)

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Tickel information supplied by Society of London Theatre disappointment from Jaco Van Dormael With Daniel Auteur Barbican (0171-638 8991) Chelsea (0171-351 3742) Curzon West End (0171-399 1722) Odeons: Kenslingti (01426-914 666) Swias Cottage (017

◆ THE FAN (18) Psycholic baseba tan Robert De Ngo stalks tas idol. Pressy States of Readoute Aug. Prop. 1 are from direct of Terr. Scott:

ABC Tottenham Court Read (10.11-60) 6148: Odeons: Kensington (10.426) 914660 Mezzantre (§ 101455 91565) Swiss Coffage (0145 914966; Passing (0145) 1

◆ THE NUTTY PROFESSOR (*2) Vulgar reworking of the old Jern, Lewis Nami with Eddie Murphy as the motif professor amo creates a siesy after ent Odeon Kensington (0)14,26 91466 Plaza (0) (099) 653990 UCI White වු -0990 838990) Virgin Trocadero දී (0171-438 9031)

THE PILLOW BOOK 18) Astrunding Pater Green author (1995) 1174 1415 Ewen Michardgor Clapham Picture House (0.1714) 5 535 Gate (0.1714) 1424 1424 1427 (0.1714) 1426 (1.1714) 1424 1427 Screen on the Hill (0.1714) 1424 1427 (1.1714) 1427 1427 1427 1427 Virgin Chelsea (6171-352 \$3%)

Getting high on the low road

NEW ON VIDEO

■ TRAINSPOTTING PolyGram. 18, 1995

THIS abrasive look at junkie life. adapted from Irvine Welsh's novel by the Shallow Grave team, and the most attention-grabbing British film released this year, can now be yours to own in a special boxed set. Contents include a widescreen copy of the film, footage of eight cut scenes, interviews with participants, and several silly trinkets (sunglasses, lighter).

THE CONFESSIONAL

Artificial Eye. 15, 1995 THEATRE wizard Robert Lepage makes a spectacular cinema debut with this seductive drama partly inspired by Hitchcock's visit to Quebec to film I Confess in 1952. Identity, truth, fact versus fiction, clashing cultures: the themes are complex, but Lepage's exuberant handling of his new medium brings constant surprises and joys. With Lothaire Bluteau as the man who returns from China to Quebec and gets sucked into a quest for his adopted brother's father.

■ DENISE CALLS UP

Artificial Eye. 15, 1995 LIGHTWEIGHT. appealing lifestyle comedy from new American director Hal Salwen, about a group of New York workaholies whose social lives take place entirely through telecommunications. They converse by phone, by fax, by laptop, and never meet face to face. The material is stretched too thin, but an agreeable, largely unfamiliar cast, and Salwen's gift for mordant one-liners all help to create a film that tickles the brain and pleases

■ KANSAS CITY - JAZZ '34 Wienerworld, E. 1996

ROBERT ALTMAN'S 55-minute video companion to his new film Kansas City (see review, page 37) expands on the jazz sessions that provide much period flavour to this kidnapping drama set in the director's birthplace. Contemporary musicians recreate the sounds of the 1930s, when Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Lester Young and others made the city a jazz mecca. The music's vitality is considerable, but cinema buffs may grow tired of the restricted colour palette (brown) and the camera lurching from player to player in the smoky ambience of the Hey Hey Club.

■ MR HOLLAND'S OPUS PolyGram. PG, 1995

WELL-MEANING, sentimental piffle about a high-school music teacher's 30year career, set in an idealised smalltown world that has no place for drugs or violence, loves to watch a marching band, and knows what the word opus means. Richard Dreyfuss attacks his part with enough gusto to earn him a Best Actor Oscar nomination, but you cannot construct a solid character from soap bubbles. The director is Stephen Herek. Available to rent.

GEOFF BROWN



Trainspotting was the most attention-grabbing British film of 1995

NEW CLASSICAL CDS: Finishing Schubert; energetic Emperor; Rossini's Bulgarian mezzo

horse, indeed, as Robert Levin

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

■ SCHUBERT Quartettsatz.etc Allegri Quartet

Naim CD012** £14.99 NOT everyone would agree with Professor Brian Newbould that Schubert's incompletion of the early, exploratory C minor Quartet (now known as the Quartettsatz) was a tragedy: indeed, one could argue that the "unfinished" element in Schubert's oeuvre is a revealing and essential part of the composer's own makeup. Nevertheless, nobody could fairly take issue with the motivation behind the professor's completion of Schubert's second-movement

Most quartets play only the complete, opening Allegro assai: Newbould's completion does act as an incentive to the performance of the sweet, steady, triple-metre song which follows. And when Schubert's opening bars the wrote only 37) return towards the end of Newbould's own

fragment.

six-minutes' worth, the delight is redoubled.

As for his own invention: there is, perhaps, too much sequential development, but the distribution of parts and the modulations are sensitively handled. Haydn's Op 33 Quartet in C and Ravel's Quartet in F, in perceptive performances, are the gentle soulmates on this thoughtfully programmed disc.

ORGHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ BEETHOVEN Piano Concerto No 5; Choral Fantasy Levin/Orchestre Révolutionnaire et

Romantique/Gardiner Archiv 447 771-3*** £12.99 ONCE you have recovered from the initial shock of hearing the cascading arpeggios of the Emperor Concerto given out on a delicate fortepiano instead of a sonorous concert grand, there are no insuperable barriers to the points out in his interesting booklet note, the sense of struggle for a fortepiano against orchestral forces is all the more titanic. What Levin and John Eliot Gardiner project so strongly in this account are energy in the phrasing and a powerful forward thrust, rather than the traditional expansive, majestic qualities of the score.

Yet their reading allows for . passages of mystery and rumination between the main tutti statements, and Levin even manages to conjure an improvisatory air at such moments. Improvisation is very much Levin's forte, so to speak, and listeners wishing to recapture something of the atmosphere of the first performance of the Choral Fantasy, when Beethoven himself improvised the opening solo, can programme two alternative versions by Levin to precede the main

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bution to a convincing performance under Gardiner. WOPER !

work. Orchestral and choral

forces make a spirited contri-

John Higgins

ROSSINI Tancredi Mei/Kasarova/Vargas/ Munich Radio Orchestra/ R. Abbado RCA 09026 68349-2

(3 CDs)*** £43.99 ROSSINI'S first major serious opera, Tancredi is also the first big opera recording for the young Bulgarian mezzo, Veselina Kasarova, Composer and singer go marvellously

well together. Marilyn Home long ruled the stage as the Syracusan warrior who fought off the Saracens a thousand years ago. With this set Kasarova announces that she too can wear the Rossinian trousers or rather armour - that Horne occupied so sturdily. Kasarova never allows her voice to b... n. but injects a

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TOMMY

Observer PAUL KEATING

in the lower register, and carries enormous flexibility throughout her considerable range. She can handle the big numbers, of which Tancredi gets more than his fair share, and she is mellifluous in her duets with Amenaide, daughter of Sicilian high society.

In this role Eva Mei shows that she too can handle Rossini sweetly. Ramon Vargas sounds impossibly young as her father, but he also carries the style and the top notes for the piece. Robert Abbado conducts the Munich Radio Orchestra with true Italianate feel, whether sighing with the young lovers or marching off to war against the evil foe.

war against the evil foe.
The 21-year-old Rossini turned the happy ending of the Venice premiere into a tragic one when the opera was restaged in Ferrara. RCA's excellent set contains both, although this means running to a third CD. Those looking for a shorter and cheaper version can turn to Axos, also very recommendable.

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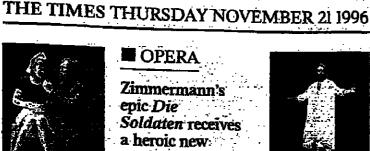
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OPERA

Zimmermann's epic Die Soldaten receives a heroic new: staging at the Coliseum



THEATRE 1

The Lyceum reopens with the lavish biblical banalities of Jesus Christ Superstar





THEATRE 2

. while The *Bellevue*, Odön von Horváth's first play, proves to be blisteringly funny



■ TOMORROW

A new CD from the anonymous one, and all the other top pop releases, reviewed by David Sinclair

OPERA: Rodney Milnes on ENO's triumphant production of an 'unstageable' masterpiece

Defiant display of martial art

is said to be the most important German opera since Berg's Lulu, and if importance is to be judged by sheer size, then it most certainly is — or was, until Henze capped it with We Come to the River. Several British productions have been planned, and then shelved because of the forces involved - an orchestra of more than 100, three film screens, electronics, enormous cast, dancers, actors and split stage-areas, quite apart from months of expensive

English National Opera has finally done it, a heroic act of defiance at a time

when belts are being tightened all round and most companies are planning long runs of Tosca. And they have made a huge success of it: Tuesday's first night was the sort of company triumph reminiscent of its War and

Peace and Lady Macbeth of

Misensk, demonstrating clearly what ENO is all about and why we There are many surprises, not least the piece itself. Lenz's autobiographical play of 1776, on which mmermann's libretto is closely based, is not so much about the brutal and licentious soldiery of the title as about class; the soldiers who degrade and destroy Marie, the middle-class protagonist, are all officers. The influence on Schiller's "bourgeois tragedy" Kabale und

Zimmermann repays the compli-ment: his score is an extended homage to Berg's Wazzeck - short scenes based on closed musical forms (chaconne, toccata and so on).

Liebe of 30 years later (even later to

become Verdi's Luisa Miller) and

Büchner's Woyzeck of 1837 is

The only problem about this piece of overwhelmingly powerful music-theatre is that Marie is none too warmly characterised: there is a danger of her seeming an upwardlymobile airhead on the make, using her sexual attraction to better he status, and of the opera itself turning into Madama Butterfly but with an unsympathetic heroine.

There is little opportunity to worty about this during a performance you are swept along by the visceral power of the music. Again, surprises. Soldaten is reputed to be the noisiest opera ever written, and the prelude — shricking woodwind

and grinding brass over insistent drum beats — is certainly a Die Soldaten musical vision of hell. Coliseum But most of the writ-

musical, filigree delicacy and extremely seductive, with especially telling use of saxophone, electric guitar, bells and extravagantly divided strings; the Bergian vocal lines, angular and with wide leaps exploiting the extremes of the com-

pass, have a beauty all their own.

If the production has a single hero, it is the conductor Elgar Howarth. He and the orchestra lay the music out with the utmost clarity, relishing its colours and subtle timbres, and take constant care with balance so that a cast taking equal care with diction get most of the words across.

And the cast sings superbly. The role of Marie looks quite impossible on paper but, in a stunning British operatic debut, Lisa Saffer not only makes light of the technical difficulties but ensures that every single bar emerges as music. Jon Garrison, in the Pinkerton role of Desportes, is equally musical, lyrical and unstrained. There are impressive performances from Roberto Salvatori



Uniformly superb: from left, around table, Nicholas Folwell (Major Mary), Roberto Salvatori (Stolzius), David Barrell (Major Haudy)

in the Lenz role of Marie's faithful swain, Christopher Gillett as an officer who thinks, and Marie Angel as the Countess who tries to take the girl under her wing - the nearest we get to a sympathetic character. was deemed Soldaten

"unperformable" by its commissioners in 1960, and even as revised four vears later remains a formidable challenge. The director, David Freeman, has rightly gone for simplicity in Sally Jacobs's helpful permanent set, and could perhaps have gone

further: the films and soldier-extras marching about - not very well add little of substance. But the action is presented with unsparing clarity (a couple of nasty rapes), even the famous three scenes played simultaneously, in the event no

more adventurous than similar devices in Bohème and Rigoletto. Indeed, in many ways Soldaten is a surprisingly conventional opera nothing wrong with that - and rivetingly well performed. Definitely not to be missed.

THEATRE: Jesus raises the Lyceum from the dead but the spirit is ailing; plus posthumous vindication for a neglected playwright



Moaning Messiah: Joanna Ampil and Steve Balsamo

YES, it is great to see the Lyceum back in creative business after an absence of sevnerations. Why, then did last night's performance of Jesus Christ Superstar not send me out shaken, moved, stunned, exhilarated, or something comparably strong? Where the Jewish rabble chants "hey-sanna, ho-sanna", I would, I fear, substitute a carping "ho-hum-sanna".

Maybe a perverse nostalgia is to blame. Behind the hefty portico that still looms over Wellington Street, Henry Irving played the great Shakespearean roles. Yet the Lyceum that has been expensively reborn on the same site is a garish barn, and the reopening show is not exactly Hamlet or Lear.

Let me admit that Superstar is not my favourite musical. I would recommend Andrew Lloyd Webber's lush, dark Sunset Boulevard or jokey, unpretentious By Jeeves to anybody; but the pop-opera he and Tim Rice concocted in the late 1960s exudes more showbiz noise than plain truth. The composer and librettist might be answering

ame resurrection

the Beatles' claim to be more famous than Christ by creating a Christ who was a greater celeb even than the Beatles.

Steve Balsamo's long, tapering Jesus is typically said to be bigger than John when he did his baptism thing; but John when he did his Lennon thing was a master of wisdom and warmth beside him. He seems to dislike the sick ("heal your-

opens nastily and soon turns nastier. "I must be mad thinking I'll be remembered," whinges the Superstar. "Look at your blank faces. My name will mean nothing after I'm dead." Though Balsamo sings nicely and brings what sensitivity he can to the role, it

European disunity

The Bellevue

Lyric Studio,

ALMOST as exciting as discovering an excellent new play is the rediscovery of an excellent old one. Here is Odon von Horváth's first play, completed in 1926. pushed into a drawer and not produced, even in his home

country (Austria) until 1969. 30 years after his untimely death. In Paris to escape the tered under a

Hammersmith tree during a thunderstorm and was killed by a falling

In his hotel room were found the notes for a new novel, Adieu Europe, a title that neatly expresses the feelings that energise all his work. In The Bellevue, an outdated map of Europe hangs on the wall of the bankrupt hotel, and Nick Philippou's production for Actors Touring Company emphasises the point by hanging it permanently

The wit is not only wintry but blisteringly funny, expos ing the unremitting greed of its characters by giving them preposterously selfish, self-exculpating dialogue. Ada, a crumbling aristocrat, is the

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hotel's only paying guest, and when the sweet-natured Christine arrives, hoping to marry the manager who has fathered her child, the staff gang up on the girl and in a nightmarish sequence all pre-

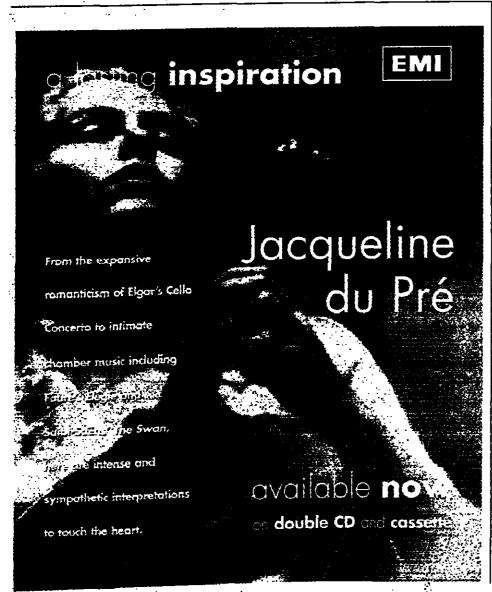
tend to have enjoyed her favours. She then reveals that her wish is to save the hotel with money pected inheritance, where-

upon the men reverse their behaviour and struggle to propose marriage.

Kenneth McLeish provides a marvellously speakable translation, and Philippou has done the author proud with the zest of his produc tion. As the raddled, grimly powdered countess. Ann Fir-bank is a haunting image of a woman, perhaps the image of a whole continent, long in the tooth but longing for former joys. Several characters, including John Dicks's sinisterly funny gambler, hint at the Nazi future ahead, and there is an exceptionally clever per formance by Christopher Staines as a louche, monkeyfaced waiter. Recommended.

JEREMY KINGSTON

MUCH ADO ABOUT Nothing Shakespeare's hearthreaking comedy of disguised emotion and misunderstanding SIGNAR FEIRON: AS Seatrice ALM SEMMING AS Sepresos Previews from tonight Royal Shakespeare Theatre Stratford-upon-Avon Box Office 01789 295623 (Mon-Sat, 9am-8pm)



selves") and to resent disciples he thinks do not love him self-pitying egomaniac. Still, enough. The Last Supper who expects a West End musical to be theologically sound? Thanks to Lloyd Webber's ebullient music and Gale Edwards's energetic direction, the evening at least holds the attention.

John Napier's set is terrific. tiers of brick arches that rise towards a stony Calvary and stretch out towards rough timber walkways running into the auditorium. Throngs swirl in rowdy joy or rage. The halt and lame slide from the brickwork like huddled, grey maggots. The temple genuinely looks like a den of thieves.

Visually, this is Superstar with a sprinkling of Les Mis. Edwards's production is earthier and less slick than the one that first hit London, and

planes these days. A stricken David Burt almost makes you feel sorry for Pilate; Nick Holder's gaudy Herod puts plenty of venom into taunts such as "prove to me you're no fool, walk across my swimming pool"; Joanna Ampil as the groupie Magdalene sings the lovely Everything's Alright with plenty of sweetness.

their predecessors. Zubin

would be planting bombs on

Varla's puritanical

Much is right, yet much is wrong. When the crowds launched into the title song, why could I not forget my children's parody: "Georgie Best, superstar, walks like a woman and wears a bra"? There is something about the Lyceum's reopening I cannot take seriously.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE • This review appeared in some editions of The Times vesterday

Printed on the air

BOOKS are a staple resource of radio. Late Book, Book at Bedtime and the Woman's Hour serial are the more prominent audio outlets for the written word. And for an author to get one of these slots. while not quite amounting to a telephone call from Holly-

wood, is a considerable leg-up. There are essentially four ways in which radio can utilise a book. Serialisation in one of the slots mentioned above, or in the 8.40am Monday slot on Radio 4, is the first. Next comes the book as a basis for discussion; the most prestigious outlet in this category is Start the Week, although to be mauled by Melvyn Bragg is not necessarily the fastest way to the bestsellers.

The third manifestation is the book as news item. The best example of late has involved the Duchess of York. who turned up in the famed

RADIO

'ten past eight" slot on Today (Radio 4), to be interviewed by Sue MacGregor. This time of the morning is normally re-served for politician-mauling and the interview typically lasts well under ten minutes. This one took nearly 20.

Lest we were in any doubt as to whose agenda was being served, the duchess halted any interesting line of inquiry by announcing: "That's not in the book". This was a classic case of a respectable current affairs medium being hijacked

for publicity purposes.

But the fourth and most entertaining example of bookto-radio transference this week came in Death Discs (Radio 2, Tuesday), a programme both nauseating and riveting. The programme was based on a book, also called Death Discs, which carries the sublime subtitle Ashes to Smashes: An Account of Fa tality in the Popular Song.

The author, Alan Clayson. has a chirpy style that is as right for the book as it was for the radio, which focused heavily on the golden era of death discs between the mid-1950s and the mid-1960s.

But Clayson also played the first death disc. Stanley Kirkby's Don't Go Down The Mine, Dad (1910), a far more pithy piece of work than the cloying records which marked the genre during the rock era. from which the most noted example is the truly awful Tell Laura I Love Her.

Death Discs will not have been to every taste, but it served to illustrate that books can make splendid radio when the book is used imaginatively as a research source.

PETER BARNARD

Roy Strong recalls the vision of a choreographer whose effervescent spirit infused his work

ton at the close of the 1960s at a party given by the young Dufferins. As he sat with his head en profile, tilted as though he were an Edwardian dowager. suggested to David Hockney that he ought to draw him for the National Portrait Gallery, of which I was then Director. He did but the then Trustees didn't regard him as important enough so I arranged for its purchase by Ann

In a way this is a cameo of establishment attitudes to the ballet even at that late date. The idea knight, an OM and be accorded a memorial service in Westminster Abbey was still a long way off. And yet within his domain he was a genius. Egotistical, lazy, selfish, capricious, stingy, bitchy and wickedly witty. Ashton adored the grand life. He was a major prop of he beau monde, revelling in the friendship of duchesses and his adored Queen Mother, fully living up to Diana Cooper's adage:

A dance to the music of his soul

"Homosexuals make the best courtiers." For there always lurked behind the façade that hidden life, one driven on by a relentless sexual drive (which also included a brief heterosexual phase) which went on almost to the end.

This was Ashton the pursuer, haunted by a succession of beautiful young men whom he chose and got, or yearned for so ardently that would put pen to paper in almost hauntingly poignant love letters. On the whole he was lucky. for only the venal and violent Marty Thomas cast a shadow at the end. The rest — the "widows" as they were called — remained loyal even after all passion was SECRET MUSES The Life of Frederick Ashton By Julie Kavanagh

What Julie Kavanagh reveals in her superb book is that in a sense each ballet was biography. For Natalia Petrovna and the tutor in A Month in the Country read the ageing Ashton pining for the beautiful Thomas. That side is unashamedly laid bare in this meticulously researched and

ations rose above that not only because of their choreographic invention but because they were emanations of an intellect.

Ashton's greatest work came after 1939, the war precipitating a catharsis during which he educated himself. Beneath all the mannered affectation and campent there lurked a man who was well read in everything from the Spanish mystics to Proust and who was fascinated by the geometry of Euclid. That certainly sets him apart from his successors, but it also explains that ability to articulate the human condition through dance which pervades all his greatest creations from Symphonic Variations onwards.

In Ashton too there was that paradox of a period shared by Beaton, Britten and others which swung between Modernism and an insular romanticism, between succumbing to the exhilaration of the new tempered by elegies for a lost aristocratic culture.

This book will not only be a compulsive read for balletomanes but also for its portrait of the world from which our present Royal Ballet sprang, one of between-the-wars high Bohemia. It is in fact the company's inner history and ought to be compulsory reading for all of them. Unlike Balanchine, Ashton never taught class or was accorded a foundation to perpetuate his work. Recent revivals of his ballets have revealed how quickly his subtleties can slip over into caricature and how some pieces already appear antiquated. Perhaps while the Opera House is closed someone will give thought as to which of his works should be preserved and also how. Ashton may not be the English Petipa but he is certainly our Bourneville.



Kumakawa as Puck in Ashton's The Dream, in a 1994 production

Delightful concoctions



More than the literary equivalent of spoonsful of jam — preparing a feast in the days before the sterility of the supermarket The Butcher's Shop by Frans Snyders (1579-1657)

SATURDAY BOOKS IN THE DIRECTORY Sarah Bradford plunges into the debate

surrounding the Duchess of York

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SEE PAGE 2 FOR TODAY'S EUROSTAR TOKEN

CHANGING TIMES

Tood has become so fashionable, in certain milieux, that it is something you're seen with rather than eat. Anorexia chic demands that fashion victims who, last year, were still serving up grilled peppers and polental now toy with ostrich steaks and roast their veg.

Foreign food still represents. contradictorily perhaps, glamour, sex, authenticity and exoticism to anyone brought up on the kind of bad English cooking we are supposed to believe has vanished thanks to the relentless proselytising of the

galloping gourmets. Perhaps, in an age of sexual anxiety, food fantasies are safe. Cookery books have long been known to provide the blissful frisson that porn does not always deliver. But aren't there enough anthologies on food around already?

Where Paul Levy, in The Penguin Book of Food and Drink (Penguin, 120: ISBN 0 6708\$ 266 XI remarks austerely that there is "no excuse for producing yet another book that is the literary equivalent of spoonsful of jam. Joan

GEORGE is having an affair

in clandestine lairs with a

married woman old enough to

be his mother. They make al

fresco love in some Metroland

suburb like Amersham.

whose commuters suppose it

to be proper country. Then George discovers a hoard of

Kalashnikovs, Semtex and

something even nastier in

their indoor love-lair. And the

third volume of John Bayley's

trilogy of domestic thrillers is

off down its roller-coaster of

This is a mixed genre, after

Dornford Yates, that Profes-

sor Bayley has invented. The

thriller element is played by

the IRA, KGB and the British

spooks, who have been privatised by the end of the

Cold War. They now operate

(as they probably always did)

for the continued employment

and profit of their operatives.

A key secret is discovered by

the underling in the Moscow

KGB whose duty is to trawl

through The Times every

morning. The domestic com-

edy is contributed by the ill-

starred lovers. Making a mess

secrets, lies and surprises.

Smith in Hungry for You: From Cannibalism to Seduction (Chatto & Windus, £17.99; ISBN 0 7011 6217 1) is permis sive, unashamed to pick out

ner iavourite plums. Her compilation is original in two ways. She prefaces each section of extracts with a lively essay of her own, and she tickles not just palates but also consciences by serving up lashings of nasties: starvation. torrure and cannibalism.

Here is a sociological and cultural account, beginning with hunger pangs and ending with the pleasures of atiety. Smith is the head-chef who designs the menu but lets the sous-chefs shine. She does allow herself some enjoyable boasting about her learned imperuous openness towards unfamiliar dishes such as sweethreads in Burgundy, virulentiv hot chicken jalfrezi in Dhaka, raw reindeer tongues stuffed with sour cream in Stockholm, brain fritters in Damascus." Her conversion experience involved Italian cookery books: "I learned how to roast garlic and sun-dry my

the shores of Lake Garda. black pasta in Sardinia and ribollita in Certaldo."

Joan Smith sounds, here, just like Loretta, the heroine of her detective novels, who, unlike other feminist sleuths who pride themselves on being unable to distinguish their fancies from their arborio, always knows what side her ciabana is buttered on. Smith is caustic, in her Obsession section, on diet as symptom not solution:what a relief to encounter Muriel Spark, Duke Ellington, Carol Shields, Brillat-Savarin, and many other experts on gournaandise. That old favourite. Becky Sharp mistakingly gobbling chillis, is here. Nothing by Colette, which is a pity.

here Smith really scores is in her early chapters, rubbing our noses in poverty, pain, desperate hunger and the desperate remedy of eating accounts fill the reader with nausea and disgust. Others compel compassion.

Paul Levy, in the opening

sentence of his introduction to the Penguin anthology, boldly lays his trump recipe cards on the kitchen table, declaring that "although this volume can be seen as an attempt to establish the canon of a subject that has yet to achieve recognition, it is also a completely

personal choice of writing about food and drink." Levy serves up big chunks of prose, long enough to convince and satisfy as well as titiliate. He distinguishes between how-to advice and recipes, and reading about food and drink as a leisure activity enjoyed by people who like to eat and fantasise about eating but don't necessarily cook.

He includes a lot of pieces from authors practising in the New World, from S. J. Perelman to M. F. K. Fisher, and in his second section, on the Old World, quotes genorously from beloved experts like Edouard de Pomiane, Norman Douglas. Jane Grigson and Elizabeth David. These two books compliment each other like fish and chips.

MICHELE ROBERTS

Not so bad as you might think

struction.

plagues swept across the globe people died in agony, some shrivelled to skeletons, some pouring blood and fluids from every orifice. Children began to wheeze and choke on the very air they breathed. A heart of a pig was found to beat in the body of a man. There were floods where there had been droughts and drought where there had been water. And in a city in the west a woman who had lain as if

dead for many months was found to be with child." So begins the first chapter of The Age of Anxiety, a determined effort to make the turn of this millennium sound as flesh-creeping as that of the last. But try instead this alternative view of the Western world today: "Peace descended: upon a continent that had ries. Nations that were enebecame friends and terrible weapons of destruction were themselves destroyed. Women no longer died in childbirth; their babies and children were spared too.

ity who would before have led barren lives. More people enjoyed the fruits of learning and their grandparents lived to a hitherto undreamed of age. Like the very birds of the air, humans flew to distant continents and brought back tales of magical heauty."

All right, I admit it: I wrote that version. But it seems just

as valid an assessment of Western life today. But it would not suit a publisher who had hit upon the idea that, as the year 2000 approaches, we are all again in the grip of millenarian angst. Mary Midgley, in her essay

on the environment, is the only writer to admit that, "I don't think there has ever been, in my time, any shortage of worry. For her generation, the biggest terror - that of war - has been lifted. But if anxiety is always with us, is it

really any worse now? Fear of crime has surely increased. But the acts that most shock us, such as the Bulger killing or the West murders, are horrifying precisely because they are so unusual. Linda Grant, in an excellent essay on violence, writes, "The even more ghastly truth about these two cases not that they are symptoms of social breakdown but that they occurred where both community and family was still

intact." The same was true of

Mary Ann Sieghart

THE AGE OF ANXIETY Edited by Sarah Dunant and Roy Porter Virago, £16.99 ISBN 1860492134

which took place in the close: knit community that is supposed to be a panacea to our

Crime is worse, but only compared with the golden age of the 1950s and 1960s, a thousand years of almost permanent anxiety about vio-lence. And Aids too, as Oscar Moore reminds us in a poignant posthumous essay, is no more than a return to the relatively recent days, just two meant danger. Even in the 1950s and 1960s, people had other things to worry about: nuclear annihilation, stifling social conventions and stultify-

ost of our genuinely summed up in Geoff Mulgan's essay on technology and jobs. Those of us aged between 30 and 60 were educated without computers and brought up to believe that our careers would be linear and secure. It is not supprising that we feel ill-equipped for change. But we can learn the new ways, and our children will have been born to them. so they will be fine.

If you, like me, are a natural optimist, read this book and you will enjoy taking issue with almost every claim, or finding a countervailing reason to be happy to match each counsel of despair. You might even find yourself whistling, as I did, Always Look on the Bright Side of Life ...



da rum

haid to res

Little Grey men

own tomatoes; I are polenta on

Philip Howard

GEORGE'S LAIR By John Bayley Duckworth, £15.99 ISBN 0715627473

of things, particularly his life, is what George is good at. And faith unfaithful keeps Martha. his improbable mother-lover. talsely true. The crusty element is supplied by the author through his puppets. He has witty digs at the vulgarity of television chat and game shows, misquotation of poetry. and modern catchphrases such as "ongoing" and "paradigm". "Crusty" itself could have been one of them. To

anybody under 30 this now means smelling of old socks. And what a bore sex has become nowadays to the authorial voice. Always on view. Like sticking a BMW in a garage and leaving the door

Nevertheless, there is a fair amount of sex of all persuasions, described with wit that is not prurient and an old man's interest in the knickerless. The Grey brothers (there are three of them), conspirators and fantasists. get some of their just desserts. The gentle and the innocent get not quite a happy ending, but resolution and a step forward in the game of life. There is an explosion and the ghastliest Christmas family house party that has been held

anywhere, even Bourne End. The light story is witty, well written and exciting, with frequent chicanes and shocks. The good guys and girls end up living the sort of lives everyone thinks they ought to be living all along. It is funny, surprising, touching — and little sad.

Sticky web of spells

IT IS owing to misfortune rather than mispedgment that the denouement of Hustvedt's second novel fails to translate across the Pond. depending, as it does, on the words "Dahl" and "doll" sounding the same. If this climax sounds fragile, then the story enveloping it is equally

The Enchantment of Lily Dahl is one of those American novels whose view of the world appears to have been manufactured by diluting with the author's sensibility the boiled-down residue of American culture. Set in some vague era in a typically claustrophobic small town, the novel is spailt for the choice of form scoording to which it will proceed: will it be the scap opera, with its limited but unerring stock of locations, or the sultry violence of the film noir? The sufficating

narrowmindedness of Main

Street, or the dark underbelly

Rachel Cusk

ENCHANIMENT OF LILY DAHL By Siri Hustvedt Sceptre, E12 ISBN 0340682353

of the local rag? Or will it be all of these, worn with the slight self-consciousness which signals that some broad-brush criticism of the above is underway?

The novel opens with Lily Dahl, a young, beautiful and ciever girl, working as a waitress at the diner downstairs, spying from her apartment on a dark, handsome stranger, who has taken up residence in a hotel room across the street. Lily seduces the stranger, a 34 year old New York Jew who having registered his interest, is left to

ing while Lily goes off to endure her rite of passage Naturally enough, this is volves men of the more local variety, who spin a workal web of intrigue upon the cust of Lily's womanhood out lavish quantities of small took holoum and hocus pocus. Te local Dram. Soc. manages mobilise a Shakespearian su plot, ample hauntings ar sightings occur, the New York painter is besinirched with some low gossip which shakes Lily's mission at its ves foundations and makes her realise that she is doing it herself and herself alone. Ms Hustvedt would doubtedly argue that her north has important things to say about female identity; but a male-female apartheid. ences of Lily's period do no feminist tract make. The not does at least have a venee novelty to recommend it, bit his moody smoking and paintno more than that.

They never left Heaven

Peter Ackroyd celebrates the visionary thread that connects the

worlds of Blake and Burroughs

The oldest literature in the world is the literature of vision; yet it is, in our time, the one least studied. The newest literature in the world is the literature of vision; yet, caught between the academic shibboleths of social realism and Modernism (or Post-Modernism), it is still the least understood. There has in fact been a change in the hot-house atmosphere of our fin-de-siècle. when omens and auguries have become commonplace, but true visionary writers are still likely to be neglected when not actively ridiculed. That is why a book of this kind is so necessary, especially since it espouses what Edward J. Ahearn describes as "a very persistent tradition of apocalyptic writing, only partially recognised by scholars and

Professor Ahearn dates this visionary tradition from the time of the French Revolution, but the provenance may be questioned. The authors of Piers the Plowman and The Pilgrim's Progress precede

that event, for example, and apocalyptic writprevalent in the mid-l6th as in the mid-18th century. This book's central concern is also with French literature

land and of Bunyan may suggest, the same congregation of forces is to be found within English writing.

It is not of course a popular subject among modern Eng-lish novelists, primarily because they have nothing much to say about it, while the broadly secular or Protestant conscience of academic "lit crit" has characteristically been unable to account for a persistent tradition which, as Ahearn shrewdly notes, can turn into "burlesque" or "satire". "displacement" or "magnification".

There may be something particularly unsettling, at least for literary purists, in the ike André Breton or William Burroughs who have no particular attachment to the form or "seriousness" of the novel itself. But the novel is a recent invention, established in the context of a public and communal world which many visionaries consider to be an ill-favoured delusion. It might be then construed as issuing from what Blake called the mundane shell. That is why the species of writing is always less important than the vision which sustains it.

But the writers described in this book are by no means vague idealists or nebulous visionaries; they were, on the whole eminently practical men who simply believed that the structure of the world was being misunderstood. Swedenborg was an engineer and Novalis a student of geology, while the ill-fated Lautreamont travelled to Paris in order to enrol at the College of Mining. There has always been a tradition connecting

earth science with mysticism. culminating in a phrase that Professor Ahearn uses in the context of Novalis - "miners

are astrologers in reverse".

Visionary Fictions is essentially a collection of short critical essays with an underlying theme but, as a result, it provides an excellent introduction to one of the most perplexing of all literary subjects. The essay on Novalis is instructive in that respect, since it places him within the context of late-18th-century German idealism. In that Newtonian age of commerce and burgeoning industrialisation, Novalis had a vision of the world that encompassed medieval fairy-tale, spiritual geology and a form of magical pre-history.

His was an attempt at syncretic or total knowledge, that holy grail pursued by 18th-century enthusiasts; but, for the visionary writers of the period, it was also an attempt to discover sources of power other than those technological and material ones which they witnessed all around them. That is also why many of them

emphasised the destructive fea-VISIONARY tures of sexual **FICTIONS** repression; the risen, or reno-Apocalyptic vated. human Writing from body might otherwise become Blake to the Modern Age the source of di-By Edward vine energy. J. Ahearn Of course the Yale, £20 . ISBN 0 300 06536 1 general reaction

the writers

who have propa-

ployed such beliefs is to denounce them as eccentric or mad; any writer possessed of a certain kind of energy or exuberance, in pursuit of an imaginative vision, is likely to be considered partly or wholly insane. Blake suffered for his visions, but remained intact; in some sense he is the presiding genius of this book. Gerard de Nerval, a French Chatterton, hanged himself. Lautreamont died mysterioushy at the age of 24. It is as if they wished only to leave the world which refused to counte-

* I was Lautreamont who, man potentials are spread out the extraordinary Chants de Maldoror, created an image of God entering a brothel. "Lie for me," God asks the narrator. Tell them that I never left heaven." This might be considered blasphemous, but really it is not so. Blasphemy is a cold and dark sin, emanating from those who have no sense of the sacred. Chants de Maldoror is, in contrast, filled with a desperate appetite for belief and a no less fervent desire for redemption. In that sense it can be judged the most formidable of visionary texts, surpassing even Blake's Marriage of Heaven and

Ahearn is very good and interesting on the predictive possibilities of such texts. One of the most extraordinary aspects of William Burrough's The Naked Lunch, for example, is the extent to which in 1959 he prophesied the growth of Arab terrorism in "Islam Inc., the spread of Aids and what sounds uncannily like



the Internet in "the panorama of the City of Interzone ... Composite City where all huvisionary who stares into the heart of the world also sees those forces waiting to emerge

There are many matters for reflection and consideration in this book. Ahearn notes, for example, that there is in male visionary writers an aversion to female sexuality, which suggests that in some sense visionaries are against nature. But in no sense are they against history. In his concluding chapter Ahearn remarks that the visionary obsession with the historical process, or with layers of time and myth, may be a way of recognising the present as an aspect of

looking back, we are begin-ning to see things clearly for the first time.

Vision that issues forth from the mundane shell: William Blake's apocalyptic Death on a Pale Horse, circa 1800

From beyond the grave

For two weeks after my father died, I watched the root like Reason argued against a letter arriving from him. but grief fuelled the hope that he'd posted a final missive to me before he had died and that something could arrive from the far side of silence. What I was hoping, of course, was that the voice I loved all my life hadn't been stilled. The basic fulfilment of such an unpromising hope is, I believe, what unconsciously thrills us when a book by an author whose work we have cherished is published posthumously.

Now Hamish Hamilton

sublishes two books by the Nobel laureate Joseph Brodsky, who died in January this year. The first and slimmer of the two, So Forth, is a volume of poetry either written in English or translated by Brodsky himself from his first language, Russian. The second, On Grief and Reason, is a collection of 21 essays, illuminations, exhortations, catechisms — varying forms of speedhall spiels in the inimitable Brodsky style which made him such an electrifying presence in both his public and private spheres. Among the many rewards of these books is the bolt of emotional lightning, reading their opening lines, not of seeing a ghost, but of seeing an old friend anew.

... [A] poet," Brodsky writes in an essay on Thomas Hardy's poetry, "shouldn't be viewed through any prism other than his poems" which is a valid point of view only when the poet commits his words to poetry and nothing else. Brodsky thought himself a poet, first: even. perhaps, a poet only — but he was savvy and sensitive enough to realise his own poetry was inextricably braided with the sounds and rhythms of his native Russian. For many English speakers, the experience of hearing Brodsky recite his poetry in Russian was never really equalled by hearing or reading that same poetry in English. This was not so much the fault of Brodsky as it was the salt-to-pepper contrast be-tween two different tongues.

Marianne Wiggins

ON GRIEF AND REASON Essays By Joseph Brodsky Hamish Hamilton, E20 ISBN 0-241-13567-2 SO FORTH Poems By Joseph Brodsky Hamish Hamilton, El6 ISBN 0241002699

In a poet of lesser genius, this might have signalled an artistic handicap, but Brod-sky's pursuit of his love for language was too agile and athletic. As a result, he made himself into one of the English language's great essayists. It is through the prism of these essays that the distinctive brilliance of his mind can best be

nd what a mind: comic. playful, rigorous, exactble. Not to mention sexy. He was as scornful of cowardice in the political area as he was of mediocrity on the literary scene. There is perhaps no better example of Brodsky in a fit of moral outrage than his stunning Letter To A President, written to that hero-ofour-time, Vaclav Havel.

The title essay is Brodsky's masterclass on Robert Frost. He is at his best when writing about other poets, and there are essays here on Rilke. Spender and Hardy. None is more affectionate than his Letter to Horace. He looks forward to meeting Horace after death, but laments they have no common language. "Worse comes to worse." he proposes, "we can communicate through meters ... That might work; you know, like inmates in an institution."

If for no other gift to the reader, On Grief and Reason is a book to be thankful for because it teaches that when you are kept awake at night by the sound of your own heart thumping, you can survive the night knowing that it is the sound of those noisy poets, still

Hold fast to sound words

he title page reads: The New Fowler's Modern English Usage, first edited by H.W. Fowler, Third Edition edited by R. W. Burchfield. Here is a mistake: Fowler did not edit the book of 1926: he wrote it. What is an "edition" of a

pen to the name "Fowler". Fowler's

book has been an enduring success

in part because of the very personal

flavour he gave it. Of course, such a

book does need updating from time to

time, and Sir Ernest Gowers revised

it for the second edition of 1965 with

great delicacy.

previously published book? When it is the original author who carries out the revision, it is seldom problematic to speak of the new text as an edition of the old, unless the author has totally altered his opinions. But when the revision is by another hand, it is unclear. Countless compilations have appeared under the title Hoyle's Rules of Card Games which have nothing in common with Edmond Hoyle's original work; "Hoyle" has simply become a name eternity. for a book of rules of card games. Visionary Fictions is a time-Something similar threatens to hap-

ly and relevant book, and marks a welcome addition to apocalyptic texts which seem to be setting the tone of this final decade. It is as if, on

Michael Dummett on the battle between prescriptive and descriptive grammarians

Dr Burchfield has produced an equivalent for the 1990s: but I am doubtful of its right to call itself an edition of Fowler's book. Fowler is often cited, but little of the original flavour survives. Compare, for exam-

ple. Fowler's article Adjectives Misused with Burchfield's THE NEW FOWLER'S article Adjective. MODERN ENGLISH Burchfield's con-USAGE tains a great deal of Edited by useful information R. W. Burchfield which Fowler did OUP. £16.99 not give; but not a ISBN 0 198691362 word of Fowler's wise stylistic advice

On the inside flap, the publishers ill-advisedly quote Churchill's recommendation to consult Fowler on the difference between "intense" and "intensive". Fowler draws the distinction with great clarity; Burchfield will leave most readers confused about it.

The article illustrates Burchfield's tendency to introduce his explanations with a history of the words involved: he insinuates that their original use has as much authority as the use to which they have come to be

> cause of the blurred effect of several of his entries. Burchfield has had to face another problem. The original Fowler was a

which a grammarian is judged virtuous by the degree to which he vows allegiance to the descriptive principle, it is hard to be chosen to re-edit Fowler. Burchfield has articles on "descriptive grammar" and on "prescriptivism", and contrives to convey that a writer's

paradigm of pre-

scriptivism. In an

atmosphere in

preference between them is a matter of temperament; it depends, rather, on whether he regards all linguistic changes as benign or some as harmful and therefore to be resisted.

Burchfield oscillates between one attitude and the other. On occasions he is so prescriptive as to term deviant speakers "miscreants"; more often, he eschews partiality by expressing no opinion at all.

There is, of course, much of value in this book. Yet it may not be possible for anyone to compile a successful equivalent to Fowler's famous book, given the prevalent views of those who consider themselves experts on language (among whom, Burchfield explains to us in his preface, Fowler had no right to count himself); for they do not believe that anyone ought to do what Fowler did so well.

Michael Dummett is Wykeham Professor Emeritus of Logic in the University of Oxford: his book, A Wicked Pack of Cards, co-authored with R. Decker and T. Depaulis, will be published next month by

Questions raised and a rumour laid to rest

The rumour went like this: Tchaikovsky did not die from cholera as officially stated, but committed stricide. He did this by taking poison after an ultimaturn from a "court of honour" convened by his old school fellows to avert the threat of a major homosexual scandal. This supposedly involved an outraged uncle, Count Stenbock, protecting a Stenbock nephew at risk from Tchaikovsky's admiration. The uncle had threatened to petition the Tsar - some versions have the Tsar himself invisting that the composer end his life.

It was never more than the prattle of a few fantastists but in recent years the rumour has been put forward as fact by one minor Russian and Iwo

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Duncan Fallowell

TCHAIKOVSKY'S LAST DAYS A Documentary Study By Alexander Poznansky Clarendon Press, E20 ISBN 0 19816696 X

major British biographers the British particularly seem at home with this combination of sexual guilt and prefectorial public school nastiness. The rumour always sound-

ed "wrong" and totally unRussian. Provided that a certain discretion is observed, Russians are traditionally very generous in matters of the heart and even the slightest acquaintance with its literature will show that 19thcentury Russia was sexually free compared with England At the very worst, Tchaikovsky might have been asked to go abroad for a little while. And an enforced suicide would have involved a cover-up that would have been impossible to sustain at the time and an infinitely greater scandal than eyes cast at the wrong person. Now Alexander Poznansky,



The young Peter Ilych Tchaikovsky (left) with his parents and siblings in 1848

Russian historian currently at Yale, whose own biography of Tchaikovsky is by lar the best we have, puts an end to the nonsense once and for all with this triumph of exemplary scholarship and judgment. It consists of an introduction, documents throwing an intense light on the last weeks of the composer's life, plus

footnotes, commentary and epilogue. The progress of the cholera is harrowing to read but vivid and incontrovertible. In addition the author demonstrates how homosexuality was an established feature of Russian life, how there was not a single prosecution for it among the educated class in the 19th century, how Tchai-

kovsky was loved for his sweet and modest character as well as for his music, how he was cherished by the Imperial Family and given a state funeral, how two of his school fellows lived more or less openly as homosexuals, how he became - after the disaster of his marriage - rather welladjusted to what he described

as his "natural tendencies" how though sometimes melancholic he was full of plans for the future at the time of his death in 1893, and so on.

The rumour arose partly because of this suddenness but also, Poznansky writes, as a Russian "response to the trial of Oscar Wilde in 1895. The parallels are too obvious for mere accident: the famous writer is replaced by a no less famous composer, Lord Alfred Douglas by the young aristo-crat Stenbock-Fermor, and the Marquess of Queensberry by an enraged uncle."

is at this point that all biographers of the story have failed to notice something of the greatest interest: at precisely this period a young Count Stanislaus Stenbock was living in London as a flamboyant homosexual and poet, a member of the Wilde-Beardsley-Yeats circle. He divided his time between Kensington and his estates in Estonia. The St Petersburg Stenbocks would have been well aware of their Anglicised scion (he went to Balliol) and of his character.

He drank excessively and took to opium and died by inadvertently falling into a fireplace in 1895 at the age of 35. Clearly he would feed very significantly into the so-called persecution of Tchaikovsky by the Stenbock family but in what exact way remains to be investigated — perhaps by the illustrious Professor Poznansky at a later date.

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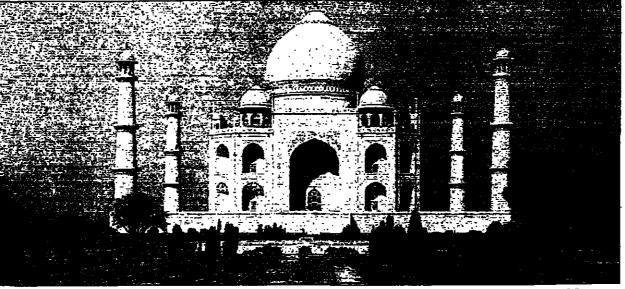
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FLIGHTS

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■ AIR Namibia has a special £199 one-way fare between Heathrow and Windhoek, Cape Town or Johannesburg. valid for selected dates in November and December. Details: 0181-944 6181.

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■ SEA France is cheaper on Dover-Calais day-trips. Cars cost £5 and £1 is charged for each passenger (£10 car sup-plement on Saturdays). Foot passengers travelling out and back on the same sailing can travel for 50p. Valid until December 31. Details: 0990

■ STENA Line has £15 car returns, £1-a-car passenger. on routes from Harwich. Newhaven, Dover and until November 30, Southampton-Cherbourg; £10 supplements apply on Saturday sailings

from Dover and Newhaven on Friday from Southampton and Harwich. Details: 0990

FOR longer ferry trips, Scandinavian Seaways has three days/two nights at sea mini cruises from Harwich to Esbjerg (Denmark) leaving on November 26; Hamburg (28) and Gothenburg (29). Prices from £59 include breakfast and a sightseeing trip. Details: 0990 333111.

■ A TEN per cent discount offer on all Brittany Ferries routes has been extended for bookings made before November 30. The offer applies to car and four passengers on the company's six routes to northwestern France and Spain. Details: Eurodrive, 0181-3244000. SAVINGS of up to 35 per cent are available at 20 hotels in the Concorde Hotel Group as part of its winter rates offer. Rooms start at £79 a night and include seven Paris hotels.

apartment hotel group, has opened its first Appartment in the UK in South Kensington, offering 92 apartments at rates starting at £80 for a twoperson studio a night, reducing to £72 a night for seven nights and £64 a night for more than 21 nights. Details: 0171-543 7878.

the St James Court in London

and the Metropol in Brussels. Details: 0800 181 591.

THE Lowndes Hotel in Knightsbridge, has a winter rate from December 15 until February 28 of £140 plus VAT for single or double occupancy. Details: 0171-8231234.

■ TAKE a weekend break at the Pennington Midland Hotel in Bradford, from £39.50 a person a night, including din-ner, from November 23 until February 2 and see the Linda McCartney photographic exhibition at the city's National Museum of Photography. Details: 01274 735 735.

THE Montcalm Hotel at Marble Arch in London has a Christmas rate from £225 a person for two nights with its seasonal menu under the control of its new head chef, Jonathan Nicholson, formerly at Congham Hall in Norfolk. Details: 0171-402 4288.

THE 80-room Carlton Ambassador Hotel located in the heart of The Hague has a

weekend package rate of £140 until the end of the year of two nights. including breakfast, for two people. Details: 0181-908 3348.

TAKE a shopping trip to the Lakeside shopping centre in Essex and stay at the nearby Stifford Moat House, a Georgian country house set in six acres. Weekend breaks before Christmas cost £32 a person a night. Details: 01708

■ NUTFIELD Priory Hotel at Redhill, Surrey, has a special post-Christmas rate, from January l to February 28, of E50 a E-person a night based on double occupancy. This includes breakfast, dinner and use of the hotel's health and fitness facilities. Details: 01737 822 066.

■ THE newly renovated Hotel Astoria in Brussels has a weekend concert invitation" package, including dinner (with cocktails and wine) and a classical music concert at the hotel on a Sunday morning followed by lunch. Price is Bfr5,300 (about £100) a person a night based on double occupancy, available until March 31. Details: 0181-741

■ THE NEW Crown Club floor at London's Grosvenor House Hotel, renovated at a cost of £45,000 a room, offers unpacking by the Crown Club butler, along with complimentary pressing of two suits. A way transfer to Heathrow is included in the room rate of £280 a night single occupancy, £300 double. Details: 0171-499

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AIRLINK



Fuel rise

will hit

package

tours

By Harvey Elliott

HOLIDAYMAKERS could

face surcharges next summer

because of a sudden big rise in the price of aviation fuel. The surcharges are likely to be imposed on packages, which include flights on

scheduled airlines that have not "hedged" their fuel costs.

or where the tour operator

does not have a "no sur-

An emergency meeting of the world's leading scheduled airlines was told this week

that the price of aviation fuel

has gone up by 43 per cent in

the past 12 months and by 37

per cent since June alone.

As fuel prices account for

nearly Il per cent of total operating costs, airlines have

decided to apply for an across-

the-board increase on pub-

lished scheduled fares of 3 per

None of the major interna-

tional airlines has demanded

extra money from tour opera-

tors to pay for the higher charges and most need to give

at least ten weeks' notice of an

intention to increase the price.

But Chris Kirker, chairman of

the Association of Indepen-

dent Tour Operators, warned

that they would fight any

attempt to pass on the addi-

"Three per cent across the

board is not warranted," he

said. "We will resist any move

ready published their bro-

cannot pass any increase on to

Most big charter airlines

season. The big airlines bought their fuel for this

winter in April and, for a

small premium, guaranteed

that they would not have to

pay more whatever happened

their customers."

tional costs to his members.

cent from December 15.

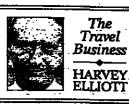
charge" guarantee.

Leave us to pick to pick our own holidays

The dust from the storm whipped up by the Of-fice of Fair Trading's surprise decision to refer the travel industry to the Monopolies and Mergers Commis-sion is finally beginning to

Through the murk it is becoming increasingly clear that during the next 12 months of soul-searching within the industry, the needs and demands of real people - the millions who want to pay as initions who want to pay as little as possible for a top quality holiday — are not on the agenda. Instead, the investigation will revolve around a largely arcane battle over

John Bridgeman, the director general of the Office of Fair Trading, took more than 16 months to complete his own investigation and by all accounts rather relished the last few months during which he tried privately to persuade the biggest tour operators to change their trading practices. In the end he failed to convince Martin Brackenbury. the Thomson negotiator, of the force of his argument and



in frustration passed the mat-ter on to "higher authority" to

The Government is, of course, delighted that yet another decision can be deferred until after the general election. And the Opposition can blame the Government for the inertia without having to produce a detailed policy of

0171782 ·

The whole exercise was forced upon the Office of Fair Trading by the vociferous ssociation of Independent Four Operators, whose 150embers, have complained bitterly that they cannot compete fairly with the big tour operators on price. They argue that their brochures should be displayed in the big multiple travel agents such as Luan Poly, Going Places, Thousan Cook and A Mayer alongside those of Phonson. Airtotijs, First Choice and BRITISH holidavinakers to

should be told clearly: which tour operator owns which travel agency. They complain that the big boys are overcharging for insurance to cut their headline prices while small travel agents are being furcial to the wall by the big chains offering selected

Independent travel agents also argue that while the hig chains stock only between 150 and 200 brochures at any one time they stock up to 800. thereby giving the consumer a wider choice. But I do not believe that anyone who stocks 800 separate brochures knows much about more than a handful of them. Better, surely, to be an expert in a few than a dullard at a lot.

While the trade continues to tear itself apart with matters which may be of prime impor tance to itself, the mass of holidaymakers continue to buy largely on price — and that means parkage holidays from the big tour operators bought and booked through big travel agents.

There is, however, a growing demand for high quality. well planned, exclusive, independent holidays, which usually cost more than the packages offered by the giants Holidaymakers who buy these need detailed personal service which, surely, small agents and tour operators can provide. The last thing we consumers need is government interference, in choosing a holiday. And we certainly do not want an Oftio!" bureaucracy. Would that our voice could be heard at the MMC.

<u>:</u> +

in touch

TRAVEL ON SATURDAY

City break istanbul Yemen Tokyo and **Kyoto** Travelling the A1 Christmas Travel tips insider's **Paris**

As record numbers choose a holiday afloat, the old lady of Cunard saves money by going slow

Cruises vie for custom in boom market

Caribbean Cruise Line, says:

"Anyone is a a potential cruise passenger today. One of the

reasons why cruising has re-

mained a minority interest for

holidaymakers is that those

responsible for selling it have

wasted too much time preach-

He says that greater efforts

should be made to overcome

the misconceptions about

cruising and to convince tour-

ists that it is no longer expen-

sive, formal and claustro-

The bargains on offer also

reflect the growing capacity of

the cruise industry. Last year,

132,000 berths were available

worldwide but that is expected

to increase by about 40 per cent to 185,000 by the end of

which is expected to continue

during the next five years, and

growing consumer demand, has led the Passenger Ship-

ping Association to predict that, by 2001, 600,000 United

Kingdom passengers will be

choosing to cruise, an increase

of nearly 50 per cent on

Carnival is predicting an

present figures.

ing to the converted."

CRUISING, once the prerogative of the rich, is increasingly being offered as a bargain holiday, as shipping com-panies vie to attract a new clientele aboard their burgeoning fleets.

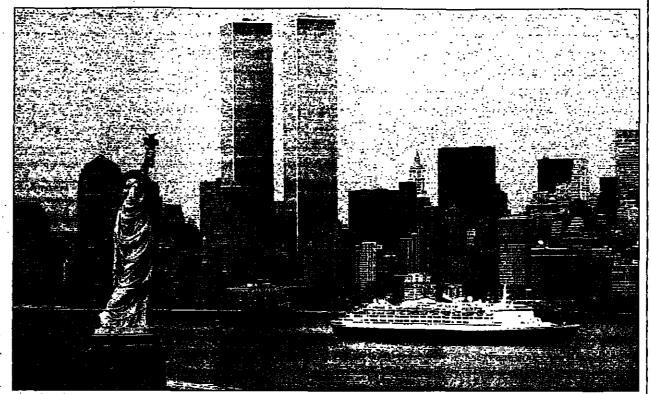
Travel agents are promoting cut-price deals, with Co-op Travelcare offering up to 30 per cent discounts on selected cruises next year - especially to the Caribbean - and Lunn Poly's 800 Holidays Shops also offering substantial

savings. The cruise companies are cutting prices for those who book early, with P&O Cruises offering savings of up to 20 per cent on bookings made before the end of this month, and Princess Cruises promising up to £300 off some brochure prices for those who book 60

days in advance The deals represent a concerted attempt to convince holidaymakers that cruising need no longer be expensive. The cruise companies have suddenly realised there is a huge market and are trying to make holidaymakers aware that cruising is affordable," says John Pittalis, spokesman for the Passenger Shipping

Association. With operators like Air-tours and Thomson entering the market, prices have come down and it is quite possible to take a two-week cruise in the Caribbean or Mediterranean for a price comparable to an all-inclusive package holiday in the same region."

Pete Williams, of Royal



Slowly does it - the Cunard flagship will save fuel and wear and tear on her journeys to and from New York

E2 decides to take it easy

THE transatlantic liner Oueen Elizabeth Π is to reduce its speed next year, taking six days on the crossing from Southampton to New York instead of five. The cut in the Cunard flagship's service speed from 28.5 to 23 knots is designed to save £660,000 in fuel in a year, as well as making further savings by imposing less wear and tear on the ship's diesel-electric

the century.
Carnival Cruise Lines has recently launched Destiny, the world's largest cruise ship, and Celebrity Cruises will shortly be launching its new star. Galaxy. Fred Olsen's Blackwatch has entered the LIK market while Original power plant. "As Concorde can get you across the Atlantic in under four hours, speed is not an issue," said Captain Keith Stanley, the QE2's Master. He believes his passengers want more leisurely travel, and that the new schedule will assure more UK market, while Oriana, consistent embarkation and disembarka-P&O's flgaship, has gained increasing popularity among tion times. "With a top speed of 33 knots, we will still have plenty of power in reserve if we find we're running late," he The increase in capacity,

for 1997 is a 60 per cent further

increase of UK business

against this year's sales fig-

ures," says the company's

keting strategies for 1997: tour

operator business is aimed

We have two different mar-

Lynn Narraway.

By GLYN GENIN

September, goes into the King George V dry-dock at Southampton today for a £12 million refit — the first time such work has been carried out in a British yard since the end of the Falklands War in 1982. QE2 has sailed more than four million miles and carried more than two million passengers since her launch.

Cunard and the shipyard are determined to avoid the financial and public relations disaster which followed the last refit and have had a project team planning the work for the past 18 months. The ship is due to return to service on December 12.

Cunard's new owners, Kvaerner ASA, are to concentrate on the luxury end of the international cruise market. They sold the middle-ranking, 900 passenger, The 70,000 ton liner, 30 years old next Crown Dynasty earlier this month.

"The OE2 is unique, the last express Cunard spokesman Bill Spears.

travellers - people moving jobs between Europe and North America. These modern-day versions of the migrants who made the shipping companies fortunes at the turn of the century will have their cars garaged and pets kenneled aboard free of charge.

QE2 will make only 20 North Atlantic

crossings in 1997, compared with 27 this year. Longer. warm-water cruises are planned, including a spring sailing from New York to Southampton via the Caribbean, Madeira and Tenerife.

Two hundred and sixty of the ship's least expensive berths are to be taken out of service, reducing passenger capacity to 1,500. QE2's five restaurants will all become single-sitting.

liner in regular Atlantic service," said Cunard hopes to attract business

to impose such an increase on our members who have alchures and who therefore

> have "hedged" the cost of buying fuel and are unlikely to feel the effect of the increases able from Co-op Travelcare. until next winter. P&O Cruises is offering a Tour operators now buying week-long "Greek Odyssey" seats on charter airlines are trip on Oriana next Septemwell into their winter season and the prices quoted in their ber from £591 a person, while brochures are, generally, guaranteed throughout the a ten-night Canaries Carousel

US hotels 'forbidden' to sell Disney tickets

BY DAVID CHURCHTUL

Orlando are being prever from buying Disney themepark tickets in their hotels because of a row between Walt Disney World and its major rivals including Universal Studios, Sea World and Wet n' Wild.

- Universal, 50 per cent owned by Britain's Rank Organisation, claims that Disney has prevented 19 hotels in the Orlando area from selling Disney admission tickets because these hotels also sell a

Universal and a number of Orlando hotels. which includes free transfer from the hotels as well as other benefits.

The Universal budget pass was brought in last May to combat Disney's market dominance and offers a five-day ticket for adults to the three main non-Disney Orlando Parks for about £66, almost half the £124 cost of a five-day pass to the Disney parks. Nearly a million British holiadmission tickets has rankled

Disney and forced it to take a tough line with hotels in the Universal alliance, allegedly stopping them from selling Disney tickets. Already the move has hit British holidaymakers. Debbie Gilmour, on holiday from Glasgow and staying at the Gateway EconoLodge in Orlando, told US news media who are avidly reporting the battle the theme park giants: "When I got to the hotel

new and very successful bud-daymakers will visit. Walt I wanted to buy Disney tickets with "about 50 non-Disney new animal-based theme get pass to non-Disney parks. Disney World this year." and they told me they could hotels in Orlando under our park, a sports complex and they pass is part of an alliance. Universal's success with the not sell them. I did not believe good neighbour scheme." new hotels by the end of the it." She eventually found tickets at a shopping mall near by but she said that it was a "horrible inconvenience".

ket, combining a cruise with a

package holiday, while our

Sunwaves brochure is target-

ed more towards the tradition-

Prices for a week's fly-cruise

start at £799 a person, plus

£110 tax, sailing from San

al cruise market.'

The Embassy Suites in Orlando is reported to be another hotel, which is on the alleged Disney "blacklist".

The threat of litigation is causing both sides to maintain a public silence on the dispute, although a Disney spokesman in London confirmed that Disney had recently launched its own marketing alliance

Behind the ticketing dispute

ten, Dominica, Barbados and

Martinique. Among other bar-

gain offers currently being

promoted are a nine-day fly-

cruise around the Western

Caribbean next November for

£975 and a fortnight's cruise

off the coast of Africa next

is Disney's concern over Universal's new £1.6 billion expansion plans over the next two years to triple the size of its existing theme park and huild four new resort hotels. Universal is also joining plans by the local authority to build a E141 million light-rail system that will link the airport, the major tourist hotels and the theme parks - apart from Disney. Disney, in turn, is spending an estimated £2 billion on a

Tourist analysts, however, remain doubtful whether Orlando's visitor growth -- proiected at 5 per cent per annum will be sufficient to meet this increased incapacity. International markets - of which the UK is the leader with 1.3 million visitors this year remain vulnerable to fears over violence. Visitor numbers from Germany, for example, were halved after the shooting of a German tourist last year.

next June aboard Canberra on

its last cruising season will

to the spot market price. In July, when they made their long-term purchases for next summer, aviation fuel was selling at \$180 a ton. By last week this had risen to \$220 a ton and vesterday it was trading at \$250 a ton. Experts predict that the price rise will slow down, and could fall back to about \$220 a ton by the end of the winter. But even so, at the end of the winter season, when airlines

have to buy their fuel for next winter, they could face increases of at least 25 per cent. The reason for the increase is the surge in demand for air travel together with the closure of a number of refineries.

Foreign Office 'blacklists' 7 countries

TRAVELLERS are being warned to stay away from a record number of countries now appearing on the For-eign Office "blacklist", Harvey Elliott writes.

In advice distributed to the travel industry and given to independent travellers who inquire in person, the consular division of the FO advises against all travel to seven nations, plus five regions. It also advises against trav-

elling to another six countries and one other region "unless Nobody should travel to Afghanistan, Algeria, Burundi, Iraq, Liberia, Somalia and Western Sahara. The FO also warns against going to Bou-gainville Island in Papua

New Guinea, the Chechen

Republic of Russia, Irian Jaya in Indonesia, Jammu and

Kashmir, India, and to Kivu in Zane. There is also a warning. against travelling unless on essential business to Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Central African Republic, Rwanda, Tajikistan, Zaire and to eastern and southeast-



Visitors to the Central American country are attracted by its lakes and volcanoes

Guatemala wants warning lifted

By TONY DAWE

THE Foreign Office has been asked to lift its formal warning to travellers to Guatemala. which attracts 600,000 visitors every year but only a few hundred from Britain.

Richard Callaway, the country's recently appointed director of tourism, has met senior consular officials in London to convince them that tourists can travel safely and to remind them that America has witdrawn its warnings.

"I have asked the Foreign Office to evaluate the measures we are taking and to reconsider its travel advice." altogether. The call for a change in Mr Callaway said. "Security the main areas of Guatema la City has been tightened and

safer with better signs and paving to prevent vehicles from having to slow down." The Foreign Office warns travellers that "violent crime is prevalent throughout the country, muggers are often well armed and armed attacks

we are making our highways

on public buses are common* However, it does not advise people to avoid the country

attitude is supported by Trips Worldwide, the Bristol-based company, which specialises in Central American holidays. "We have organised tailormade itineraries for hundreds of clients and no one has returned with any personal experiences of crime or violence," Jo Campbell, Trips director said.

Where the planes leave on time

HOLIDAYMAKERS flying from Birmingham and Luton early this summer were more. likely to take off on time than those flying from other airports, according to the Department of Transport, Harvey

Elliott writes. Sixty-five per cent of flights from Birmingham and 64 per cent from Luton left within 15 minutes of the scheduled time. according to figures compiled for the department by the Civil

Aviation Authority. Only 46 six of the seven airports per cent of those taking off from Gatwick were within 15 minutes of the published time. While charter flights suffered, scheduled airlines were

much more punctual. Eighty per cent of all the scheduled flights monitored were on time in the second quarter of this year - 2 per cent fewer than in the same period last year. The on-time performance of

scheduled services slipped at

ity rate of 88 per cent, was the same as in the second quarter

Regional airports generally performed better with both scheduled and charter flights than those serving London. On average, 78 per cent of scheduled flights and 49 per cent of charters from London's

four main airports were with-

covered in the survey and only

Birmingham, with a punctual-

in 15 minutes of the published time, while at the regional airports of Manchester, Birmingham and Glasgow the averages were 80 per cent and 32 per cent respectively.

When the figures for the peak summer period are produced they are expected to show a further decline in punctuality, despite a 10 per cent fall in the number of charter flights during the

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EUROSTAR TRAVELLERS More than 100 hotels to choose

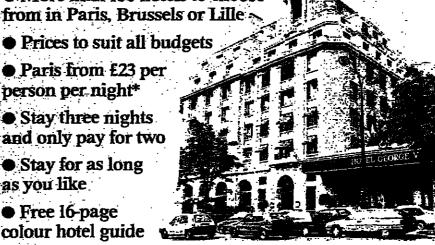
from in Paris, Brussels or Lille:

 Paris from £23 per person per night*

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Stay for as long as you like

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readers travelling on our free Eurostar ticket a choice of more than 100 hotels with a range of star ratings and prices to suit every taste and budget.

*The prices are based on two adults sharing a twin/double room and include continental breakfast.

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THE TIMES HOTEL DISCOUNT **TOKEN 4**

tokens and the official Eurostar free ticket application form which will be published again on Saturday. You will receive a free 16-pagé colour brochure from Cresta, with your Eurostar information pack, listing the hotels, prices, special offers and a booking hotline number. There is a booking fee of £20 and special supplements may apply. Before you book your hotel(s) you must have confirmed dates of travel from Eurostar.

CHANGING TIMES

Fee-paying adds value

John O'Leary explains the benefits of

paying for an independent

education

ndependent schools, as usual, dominated yesterday's examination league tables. Although quirks in the system may undervalue the performance of many of the leading lights, the quality of the sector still

Winning a place in an elite school, such as Westminster or St Paul's, in London, is not easy. They are among the and many of the big city day schools have at least five applicants for every place. tatistics suggest that if a

child is no more than average academically, it is still worth parting with the fees for what were once known condescend ingly as minor public schools. Studies carried out for the Department for Education

and Employment show that sixth-formers with modest GCSE results do better at Last year's DFEE analysis

found that independent school pupils outscored those in the state system at every level. Of those achieving less than the equivalent of eight C grades at GCSE, almost half of privately-educated candidates scored at least ten points at A level, compared with less than a quarter of those in the state

Nick Bevan, the headmaster of Shiplake College, at Henley-on-Thames, says: "Schools like ours take kids from a wide range of backgrounds, and our recent inspections said we were producing above-average results with average pupils. The top schools are taking people who are going to get four As anywhere, but for some of our boys a couple of Es is a real achievement."

The secret of Shiplake's success, according to Mr Bevan, lies in small classes and a dedicated staff. Most boys are restricted to eight GCSEs, allowing them an extra lesson a week in each subject.

Mr Bevan, who is the next chairman of the Society of Headmasters and Headmistresses of Independent

CHALLENGI

Mees Pierson

MERCHANT BANKERS SINCE 1720



Portland Place school is hoping word of mouth will increase its number of pupils

Schools, added: "League tables do have a damaging impact because parents automatically assume that schools above us are better, rather than just having a better clientele. Once we are able to show the improvement between 13 and 16, we will show

That time is not far off, now schools' associations have agreed to test pupils on entry and compile their own "value

added" tables. Pilot projects will start in a number of schools next year and may be introduced nationally in 1998.

The Girls' Schools Association, which is one of the partners in the scheme, hopes that the 45-minute tests may become the model for all schools in England. The aim is to measure IQ, prior achieveacademics at Durham University to assess each year's GCSE results against pupils'

natural ability. Until the new system is introduced, parents will have to rely mainly on recommendations to find the good schools that the league tables fail to identify. A grow-ing number of independent schools are also making their inspection reports available to

schools undergo inspections by the Office for Standards in Education each year, but there are two similar inspection

systems operating in the private sector. The Headmasters and Headmistresses' Conference organises teams of senior staff to inspect its members' schools, while the Indepen-dent Schools Joint Council deals with other associations. Schools are not obliged to

Head aims

to build up

new school

PORTLAND Place School in central London is one of those

rare phenomena — a new independent secondary school, David Charter writes."

More than £1 million has

been put into the ambitious

venture to carve out a niche in

one of the country's most

Obtaining and refurbishing

two impressive listed Geor-gian houses in Portland Place

to cater for up to 250 II to 18-

year-old boys and girls was the easy part. Now it is up to Richard Walker, the head-master, and his 24 staff to

convince parents to spend the

£5,835 annual fees on a place.

because the main way parents hear about you is through

word of mouth," says Mr Walker, former head of chem-

istry at St Paul's Girls School in London. "But if you have got one happy customer it

generally means a couple more will be referred."

Portland Place was set up

by the Davies Laing and Dick group which already runs ten

prep, pre-prep and sixth form

colleges. It started in tempo-

rary buildings before moving

to its present site, and offers

the national curriculum range

to small class groups. For sports it uses nearby Regent's Park, the local authority pool

There are currently 110 pu-

pils. This summer it had an

excellent A level average of 22

points — for its two entrants

Mr Walker adds: "I don't

think people choose schools

mainly on exam results, they

choose it on the people they

meet and faith in the head

and staff. Frankly, when

parents come here they are interviewing me."

and a private gym.

"It will take some time

demanding markets.

publish inspection findings, most will issue them Although not as hard-hitting as Ofsted reports, they are an invaluable source of informa-

Chance to catch up on league tables

READERS who missed yes-terday's school league tables have two immediate opportunities to catch up with the

The 24-page results supplement published in *The Times* is available through the paper's internet edition, and booklets giving the full statis-tics for every local authority area can be ordered from the Department for Education

and Employment.
The tables are already available in the back issues section of Interactive Times, which can be found at http://www.the-times.co.uk. They will remain in the education section of Information

Central libraries will stock tables for their area, but members of the public may order their own copies via Freephone 0800 242322 or by writing to: School and College Performance Tables, DFEE. Freepost (LON 6283), London E3 3BR. The information will also appear on the department's internet site.

Separate booklets for each area include information on vocational qualifications and the number of pupils receiving help for special educational needs, as well as statistics on GCSE. A levels and ab sence records.

TOMORROW

School or college? With more teenagers than ever wanting a change of scene after GCSE, we weigh up the options and look at the marketing war

Why children at prep schools get the best results

David Tytler on the benefits of small class sizes and specialist teaching in the private sector

s parents scour the Government's GCSE league tables to see bow well their local schools have done, they may also be wondering how they can assess how well their own

children will do in the

The best predictor of GCSE grades, says David Hanson, director of educa-tion for the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools (IAPS), are the results of the national curriculum tests for II-year-olds — Key Stage 2 Sats, in the

jargon. He says: The tests are a sound prediction of future performance. Prep schools have very good results at Key Stage 2 and they are gaining in importance for

parents choosing a school."
At Key Stage 2 this year, 91
per cent of IAPS pupils
gained national curriculum level 4 or above in English compared with the reported national average of 56 per cent; 89 per cent achieved the same levels in mathematics compared with the reported 53 per cent.

In science, IAPS schools scored 93 per cent compared with the state school average of 82 per cent. In English, 39 per cent of prep school pupils reached level 5 or above, 48 per cent in mathematics and 41 per cent in

The prep school results will not be published when the state school figures are published next March. But they will be available to prospective parents, particularly if the school has done well. While it is not compulsory, most prep schools follow the national curriculum, and enter their pupils for the end of key stage tests at 11. Hugh Davies Jones, chair-

man of IAPS and Headmas-Eastbourne, says: tests were externally marked and subject to the same rigorous audit as those in state schools. The results demonstrate that standards remain very high in prep schools, particularly in the

'three Rs'.
"Of course, preparatory schools should be outscoring their state counterparts, not only because of our small class sizes and specialist teaching, but because we have enjoyed freedom and independence over the past 25 years of turbulent educa-tional history."

Mr Hanson says: "The most marked difference between state schools and prep schools at Key Stage 2 is probably specialist subject teaching. As children progress through prep school, they gradually change from whole-class to subject-based teaching. At the end of Key Stage 2, some pupils are working at GCSE level. It is unacceptable to expect a single class teacher to be able

to teach all ten subjects of the national curriculum to this "Sadly it would appear that in our country, status is attached to the age of the children we teach. This attitude is not only wrong, it is

very damaging and inhibits graduate subject specialists from entering primary schools. So far this problem is less prevalent in prep schools and they continue to benefit from an increasingly young, dynamic and talented teaching force." The other key factor, says

Mr Hanson, is the number of children in a class: 'The skills of the teacher may be paramount, but there is no doubt that a teacher can give more time and attention to a class of 15 or 20 than he or she can to a class of 30 or 40. Small classes are very popular with parents and another reason why they choose prep schools and why teachers enjoy working in them."

The good prep school will good schools. It will treat its children as individuals who matter, provide security and firm but fair discipline, ensuring that they leave well prepared for senior school as

mature young adults. A visit to the school will reveal much: the way children behave, whether they are friendly, happy and confident and trusted to show visitors round the school. Visiting parents will learn more about what goes on in a school from a pupil in a matter of minutes than they will from the head in a day.

Among the questions to ask are: Does the school have a strong music or art department? is there a strong sporting tradition? Which senior schools do the pupils move on to? How many scholarships do its pupils receive for senior

If you are not made to feel welcome, think again. A warm welcome is the least you should expect from a school that will be charging around £9,000 a year for boarding and £6,000 for a

rep schools do have the advantage of being able to choose those parts of the national curriculum which they think are in the best interests of their children. Mr Hanson says: "Most IAPS schools do follow the revised national curriculum but consider it to be a minimum specification.

The National Curriculum can never provide sufficient conditions for learning, nor does it describe the culture values, or ethos of the school, yet these aspects are critical in providing a quality learn-ing environment. They are one of the strengths of prep schools and greatly influ-ence parental choice."

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Im The France Par

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PLANNING A BUSINESS

EC working hours directive was validly made

United Kingdom v Council of of directives, minimum requirethe European Union Case C-84/94

Before G. C. Rodriguez Iglesias. President and Judges G. F. Mancini, J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, J. L. Murray, L. Sevon, N. Kakouris, P. J. G. Kapteyn. P. Puissochet, G. Hirsch, P. Jann and H. Ragnemaim

Advocate General P. Leger (Opinion March 12) (Judgment November 12)

The Community directive which provided, inter alia, that the average weekly working time of workers was not to exceed 48 hours, had been correctly adopted on the basis of article 118a of the EC Treaty, rather than on that of article 100 or article 235, and was not inconsistent with the principle of subsidiarity.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held, inter alia, when dismissing for the most part an application by the United Kingdom under article 173 of Council Directive 93/104/EC of November 23, 1993 concerning certain aspects of the organisation of working time (OJ 1993 L307 pl8) and alternatively for the annul-ment of article 4, the first and second sentences of article 5, article 6(2) and article 7 of the directive.

The court allowed the applica-tion to the extent of annulling the second sentence of article 5. Article 100 of the Treaty provides: The Council shall, acting unanimously on a proposal from

directives for the approximation of such laws, regulations or admin-istrative provisions of the member states as directly affect the establishment or functioning of the common market."

Article II8a provides: "(I) Member states shall pay particular attention to encouraging improvements, especially in the working environment, as regards the health as their objective the harmonisation of conditions in this area, while maintaining the

improvements made. (2) in order to help achieve the objective laid down in the first naragraph, the Council, acting in accordance with the procedure referred to in article 189c [procedure for acting by a qualified majority ... shall adopt by means

ments for gradual implementation, having regard to the conditions and technical rules obtaining in each of the member

"(3) The provisions adopted pursuant to this article shall not prevent any member state from maintaining or introducing more stringent measures for the protection of working conditions compat-ible with this Treaty."

Article 235 provides: "If action by the Community should prove necobjectives of the Community and this Trenty has not provided the necessary powers, the Council shall, acting unanimously on a proposal from the Commission... take the appropriate measures":

In its judgment the European Court of Justice held: The directive, in accordance with article I, laid down minimum health and safety requirements for the organisation of working time. and applied to all sectors of activity, both public and private in the meaning of article 2 of Council Directive 89/391/EEC of June 12, 1989 on the introduction of measures to encourage improvements in the safety and health of workers at work (OJ 1989 L183 pl), with

certain exceptions. Under section 11 of the directive, member states were obliged to take measures necessary to ensure that every worker was entitled to a minimum daily rest period of II consecutive hours per 24-hour period (article 3), to a rest break where the working day was longer than six hours, the details of such break to be determined by the two sides of inclustry or by national legislation (article 4), to a mini-mum uninterrupted rest period of 24 hours in each seven-day period, plus the II hours daily rest referred to in article 3 (article 5, first sentence), such period in principle to include Sunday (article 5, second ntence), and to four weeks'

annual naid leave. Article 6 required member states to take the measures necessi ensure that the period of weekly working time was determined by the two sides of industry or by national legislation, provided that the average working time for each seven-day period, including overtime, did not exceed 48 hours.

requirements concerning night work, shift work and patterns of miscellaneous provisions.

In support of its application, the United kingdom relied on four pleas, alleging: (i) that the legal basis of the directive was defective. (2) breach of the principle of proportionality, (3) misuse of pow-ers, and (4) infringement of essen-

The United Kingdom contended that the directive should have been adopted on the basis of article 100 or 235 of the Treaty, which required unanimity within the Council, rather than, as was the case, on the basis of article 118a.

The United Kingdom argued, first, that article 118a had to be regarded as an exception to article which pursuant to article 100a(2), was the article that covered provisions relating to the rights and interests of employed persons", and must therefore be strictly interpreted.

As the Court had pointed out in Opinion 2/91 [1993] ECR 1-1061 paragraph 17), article 118a con-ferred on the Community internal islative competence in the area of social policy. The existence of other provisions did not have the effect of restricting the scope of

Appearing as it did in the chapter of the Treaty dealing with social provisions, article 118a related only to measures concerning salety of workers, and therefore constituted a more specific rule than articles 100 and 100a. That argument therefore could

Second, referring to the wording of article 118a, the United Kingdom argued that that provision permitted the adoption only of directives which had a genuine and objective link to the bealth and safety of workers, and that that did not apply to measures concerning working time, leave and rest periods, whose connection with the health and safety of workers was

was borne out by the expression "working environment" used in article 118a, which implied that directives based on that provision must be concerned only with physical conditions and risks at the

However, there was nothing in the wording of article 118a to indicate that the concepts of "working environment", "safety" and "health" as used in that provision should, in the absence of other indications, he interpreted restrictively, and not as embracing all factors, physical or otherwise, capable of affecting the health and salety of the worker in his working

lar certain aspects of the organis-

ation of working time. On the contrary, the words "especially in the working environ-ment" militated in favour of a broad interpretation of the powers which article 118a conferred on the Council for the protection of the health and safety of workers.

The United Kingdom further argued that, in view of the reference to "minimum require ments" in article 118a(2), that provision empowered the Council to adopt harmonisation measures only at a level acceptable to all member states and constituting a minimum benchmark.

In conferring on the Council power to lay down minimum requirements, article 1182 did not pre-judge the extent of the action which that institution might con-sider necessary in order to carry out the task expressly assigned to it, namely, to work in favour of improved conditions, as regarded the health and safety of workers, while maintaining the improve-

The significance of "minimum requirements" was simply, as article I18a(3) confirmed, that member states were authorised to adopt more stringent measures than those forming the subject matter of Community action: see Opinion 2/91 (paragraph 18).

The Court then held that there was no support in the wording of article 118a for the United Kingdom's third argument, to the effect that Community action should be restricted to specific measures applicable to given groups of workers in particular situations, while measures for wider purposes should be adopted on the basis of

Article 118a referred to "workers" generally and stated that the objective which it pursued was to be achieved by the harmonisation of "conditions" in general existing in the area of the health and safety of those workers. In addition, the delimitation of

the respective fields of application of articles 100 and 100a, on the one hand, and article 118a, on the

between between the possibility of adopting general measures in the former case and particular ones in the latter, but on the principal aim of the measure envisaged

It followed that where the principal aim of the measure in question was the protection of the health and safety of workers article 118a must be used, although such a measure might have anciliary effects on the establishment and functioning of the internal

It was in the light of those, among other considerations that the Court had to examine whether the directive was properly adopted on the basis of article 118a.

Choice of legal basis As part of the system of Community competence, the choice of the legal basis for a measure had to he based on objective factors which were amenable to judicial review. including, in particular, the aim and content of the measure. As to the aim of the directive, the

United Kingdom argued that it represented a continuation of earlier Community initiatives concerning the organisation of working time in the interests of job creation and reduced unemployment, and was in reality a measure concerned with the overall improvement of the living and working conditions of employees and their general protection, and as to be canable of classification as a social policy measure, for the adoption of which other legal

bases existed. According to the sixth recital in its preamble, the directive con-stituted a practical contribution towards creating the social dimen sion of the internal market.

However, it did not follow from the fact that the directive fell within the scope of Community social policy that it could not properly be based on article 118a, so long as it contributed to encouraging improvements as regarded the health and safety of workers, and the Court had concluded, in Opinion 2/91 at paragraph 17, that article 1/8a conferred on the Community internal legislative competence in the area of social policy.

Moreover, the organisation of working time was not necessarily conceived as an instrument of nployment policy. The approach taken by the

directive, viewing the organisation

of working time essentially in terms of the favourable impact it might have on the health and safety of workers, was apparent from several recitals in its

While it could not be excluded that the directive might affect employment, that was clearly not its essential objective.

As regarded the content of the directive, the United Kinedom argued, on various grounds, that the connection between the measures it laid down, on the one hand, and health and safety, on the other, was too tenuous for the

In relation to one point made, a the second sentence of article 5 of the directive and its other

The question whether to include Sunday in the weekly rest period was ultimately left to the assessment of member states, having regard, in particular, to the di-versity of cultural, ethnic and religious factors in the states, second sentence of article 5 read in

conjunction with the tenth recital. The Council had failed to explain why Sunday, as a weekly rest day, was more closely connected with the health and safety of workers than any other day of the week, and in those circumstances the second sentence of article 5, which was severable from the other provisions of the directive, must be annulled.

The other measures laid down by the directive, which referred to minimum rest periods, length of work, night work, shift work and the pattern of work, related to the orking environment" and reflected concern for the protection of the health and safety of workers", the scope of which terms had already been explained earlier in

the judgment After considering the further points made by the United Kingdom, the Court concluded that it was clear that, in terms of its aim and content, the directive had as its principal objective the protection of the health and safety of workers by the imposition of minimum requirements for gradual im-plementation, and that, accordngly, neither article 100 nor article 100a could have constituted the

necessary to improve the existing level of protection as regarded the health and safety of workers and to harmonise the conditions in that improvements made, achieve of that objective through the im-

nents necessarily presupposed Community-wide action, which otherwise, as in the present case, left the enactment of the detailed implementing provisions required largely to the member states.

As to article 235, it was apparent from the Court's case law that that article could be used as the legal basis for a measure only where no other Treaty provision conferred on the Community institutions the necessary power to adopt it. It must therefore be held that the

directive was properly adopted on the basis of article 118a, save for the second sentence of article 5, which must accordingly be annulled.

The United Kingdom's argument of non-compliance with the

It was said that the Community egislature had not established that the aims of the directive would be better served at Community than at national level, but that argument, as so formulated, really concerned the need for Community action, which had already iudement

Futhermore, the United Kingdom based its argument on a conception of "minimum requirewhich differed from that in article 118a, that provision did not limit Community action to the lowest common denominator, or even to the lowest level of protection established by the various member states, but meant that member states were free to provide than that resulting from Com-munity law, high as it might be.

The Court had held that in order to establish whether a provision of Community law complied with the principle of proportional the means which it employed were suitable for the purpose of achiev whether they did not go beyond what was necessary to achieve it. As to judicial review of those conditions, however, the Council

in an area which, as in the present case, involved the legislature in making social policy choices and required it to carry out complex

Judicial review of the exercise of that discretion must therefore be limited to examining whether it had been vitiated by manifest error or misuse of powers, or whether the institution concerned had manifestly exceeded the limits of its discretion.

So far as concerned the first had already been said in the judgment that the measures on the anisation of working time which formed the subject matter of tained in the second sentence of article 5, contributed directly to the improvement of health and safety protection for workers in the meaning of article 118a, and could not, therefore, be regarded as unsuited to the purpose of achiev-

ing the objective pursued. Court, the Council did not commit any manifest error in taking the view that the objective of harmonising national legislation on the health and safety of workers, while maintaining the improvements made, could not be achieved by measures less restric-

subject matter of the directive. The second plea must therefore also be rejected.

Third and fourth pleas

For reasons given by it, the Court held that the United Kingdom had failed to establish that the directive was adopted with the exclusive or main purpose of achieving an end other than the of workers, and that there was no substance in the submission that the directive was inadequately or defectively reasoned.

The third and fourth pleas were therefore also rejected.

On those grounds, the Court of Justice

I Annuiled the second sentence of article 5 of Directive 93/104 2 Dismissed the remainder of the 3 Ordered the United Kingdom to

pay the costs, and 4 Ordered the Kingdom of Belgium, the Kingdom of Spain and the Commission of the European Communities to bear their own

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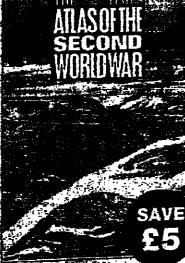
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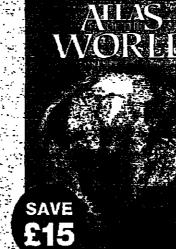
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TIMES BOOKS A WORLD OF KNOWLEDGE

Advertising a sign of the good times for football

o real football supporters drink claret? Odd as it their tipple of choice if we are to believe the advertising seen around some of the country's grounds at the weekend.

The message was there for all to sce as Derby County lined up in the rain against Middlesbrough at the Baseball Ground on Sunday. "Vin de Bordeaux" promore popular' claimed hoardings that

They may label this the FA Carling Premiership, but advertising men know their markets well and those hoardings were blatantly aimed at the claret-drinking classes with the expensive season tickets; and nothing more clearly spells out the changes that have taken place in the profile of the great British football crowd.

or city stadium after spilling out of the factory gates at one o'clock on a winter Saturday. These days, the fans prefer to show up in cars and coaches, or simply to follow their

favourite team on television, and many of the games The game has do not even take place on a Saturday any more. With the intro-

duction of all-seat

stadiums after the stadiums after the skirted the pitch. Vin de Bordeaux? Taylor report, there were bound to be changes to the crowds Grounds are smaller for a start; but crowds are no less keen. The game has never been more popular. Never has it had such a following, so to keep the revenue high despite the smaller ground capacities, the ticket prices got

higher.
Clubs charge what they can get away with — and at some clubs

drink claret? Odd as it rivers of working-class fans who seems, this might now be traditionally plodded to the town seas will cost you £40, and you will pay £2 for a programme and £1 for a cup of tea. But even at these prices, seats are hard to come by.

Try getting into Newcastle United or Chelsea. You can't.

What has happened is that the dedicated followers of football have simply become more affluent and more educated. A recent national survey of fans published by the Sir Norman Chester Centre for football research at Leicester University shows how the supporter of the Nineties is becoming ever

Some of the findings are surprising, but they are certainly enough to have the marketing men eyeing up the opportunity to sell a good few cases of clarer.

Wimbledon, according to the survey, have more up-market supporters than most in the Premiership. Of the season-ticket holders who cheer on Vinnie Jones and his muddy men. 38.6 per cent have a



degree, compared with their two closest intellectual rivals, Manchester United (36.8 per cent) and Leeds United (34.6). Even Coventry City, bottom of the higher education league, could boast that 24.9 per cent of their season-ticket holders are graduates.

The survey also found that there a growing number of football spectators whose salaries exceed £30,000 a year. Chelsea fans, for instance, who were found to be generally low in education, are surprisingly high in salary. Another statistic that the marketing men will not have missed is that one in eight Premiership fans is now female, and the number is growing rapidly.
Today's football crowds are very

different, both in size and in makeup, to those that saw the game grow into a mass spectator sport. When the Football League began business in 1888, the 12 founder members had to guarantee a regular crowd of 4,000 or more. But soon attendances were soaring. In 1893, when Wolverhampton Wanderers played Everton at Fallowfield, Manchester, in the FA Cup Final, the gate was 45,000. By 1901, with the final back in London, at Crystal Palace, 110,000 watched Tottenham Hotspur draw with Sheffield United.

These huge crowds were not made up of supporters eager to stock their cellars with vin de Bordeaux, but the sport they flocked to watch had originally emerged as a "gentleman's game"

 developed by the elite of the great public schools and universities and codified by self-confident, middle-class Victorians.

The first laws of the game were framed at Cambridge University in the middle of the last century, with the representatives of such

schools as Eton. and Shrewsbury 'Clubs charge present. The public schools dominated the early years of football — with the what they can get away with' Old Etonians even winning the FA Cup twice, in 1879

and 1882. Today the public schools will tell you that interest in football has never been higher. "About 20 of the 50 boys in my house watch Premiership matches," Angus Graham-Campbell, an Eton

housemaster, reports. The Boodle and Dunthorne Cup the knockout football competition for independent schools) is booming as never before with Eton. Shrewsbury, Westminster,

Woods has

strong

for top

billing

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES

AUSTRALIA is awash with

American celebrities at the moment: Tiger Woods is down

under for the Australian Open golf championship: Bill Clin-

ton is also in Sydney for some

golf and a chat with Prime

Minister Howard: and Mich-

ael Jackson, pregnant wife almost in tow, is doing what-

ever it is Michael Jackson does

although there has been no

sighting of him on a golf

The President has been

lobbying hard to play golf with Greg Norman during his visit and Norman was keen to oblige. Clinton had nothing

course thus far.

ter, Brentwood and Ardingly all playing, together with the northern grammar schools.

With the changing profile of the fans and the huge interest in football that now cuts across all social groups and incomes. it

appears the appeal of the game has almost come full

That privileged Cambridge a century and a half ago to hammer out the laws of the game, might well

reflect that, with its all-seat stadi-ums, its new, affluent middle class supporters, and its ever-growing attraction for the advertising industry, football as they knew it is at last coming home.

And that is something which

they might wish to toast — with a good drop of vin de Bordeaux.

JOHN BRYANT

GOLF

never been

Sherry put on trial by the Spanish inquisition

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT IN SOTOGRANDE

THE professional golf circuit in Europe started nearly 11 months ago and is not finished yet. Here in southern Spain this morning, 182 professional golfers intent upon competing against the likes of Colin Montgomerie, Ian Woosnam and Costantino Rocca on the PGA European Tour in 1997 will begin an elimination process that could hardly be tougher if it had been devised by Tomas de Torquemada, Spain's infa-

mous 15th century inquisitor. With the Andalucian hills in the background and the Mediterranean in the foreground. the would-be Ryder Cup stars will play six rounds on the Old Course at Sotogrande and at San Roque. At least the better ones will. The lesser ones will be eliminated after 72. holes. Those that survive will play two more rounds under



Sherry: test of nerve

ing 40 will have earned their

The card is their passport to Tour in 1997, but is no guarantee of fame and fortune. Just ask Joe Higgins and Mike Miller. Higgins has been on and off the Tour for years without earning much money. He is making another attempt to get his card because winning the PGA regional order of merit this year enabled him to do so.

Miller, 45, has been around. seemingly, since irons with wooden shafts. The rookie of the year in 1979, he has never seriously troubled those who record the low scores at tournaments, but this year he had a good run in regional events in Scotland and finished 22nd on the Challenge Tour. He probably thought to himself: Another visit to the school? Why not? You never know. There's life in the old dog yet."

Not only will a majority of the competitors fail to get their cards this year, but there are also long odds against those that succeed having a year

like the one David Howell has just had. Howell turned pro-fessional before the school last year, got through the qualifying and settled down in the professional ranks so well that he finished 54th in the order of merit with winnings of

If that sounds good, then consider the efforts of Raymond Russell and Padraig Harrington. Both won their cards at this event last year and throughout 1996 seemed locked together in a

win more money. Harrington, a Walker Cup player in September 1995, edged out Russell by £17,000, in part thanks to winning the Spanish Open. The amount they each won goes some way towards explaining why so many young players hope they, too, are good enough to compete at the highest levels this continent can offer. Har rington took home £285,000 and Russell £268,000.

Paul Way, a Ryder Cup player in 1983 and 1985, had such a wretched season in 1996 that he has to qualify for next year, as does Mike McLean, who went to the same school in Kent at the same time as Way. Gordon J. Brand, 4i, the 1983 Ryder Cup player, who won less than £7,000 this year, is trying again, as is Steve Webster, the leading amateur at the 1995 the winner of the school last ear was no guarantee for him this year. He won only E40.000, so it is down to Spain

One of the biggest names, as well as one of the biggest men. will be Gordon Sherry. The amateur for whom nothing went wrong in 1995 turned professional in April 1996, after which nothing went

right.
This time last year Sherry looked almost as good a prospect in Europe as Tiger Woods was in the United States. As Woods turns the world of American sport on its head, Sherry has been out on the practice range in Scotland. working hard with Bob Torrance, his coach. The next week will be an interesting one in the career of Gordon Sherry. It will show us what he is made of.

"I'm sure I'll feel nerves, but I have just got to control them." he said. "It's the calmest and coolest who get through. The last thing Bob [Torrance] told me before I came here was: These are the happiest days of your life, go



Corporate elite ply competitive skills at golf's taxing haven

The bonhomie and the mutual congratulation flowed like best Rioja. But that was on Tuesday; today the gloves come off. The national final of The Times MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge gets under way this morning and, for the next two days, the air will be thick with the whiff of battle in this sunblessed southeast corner of

The competition was stiff enough in the 12-event regional final series in this, the fourth year of the Challenge. Victory was hard to come by at that stage. Nobody won without a light, but compared with what will have been required of the winners come omorrow night, it was but a

stroll in the park.

The standard of golf in the egional finals was uniformly high and there were probably more close finishes this year than in any two of the competition's other three seasons put together. Add to that the fact that the players here will be performing on a top-class layout — the South course at the Hyatt La Manga Club Resort - and that they will be doing so under the stern and unforgiving eye of the television cameras, and some idea can he gained of the task every

one of them is about to face. This final is the culmination of the most successful year yet for the Challenge. Almost 1,000 company golf days were registered with the event Mel Webb looks at the changing face

of La Manga's lush fairways and the

national final that is too close to call

through spring, summer and early autumn and that puts the tournament firmly in the uppermost bracket of amateur of competitions in the Brit-

For the first time in the competition's history, nobody playing in Spain has taken part in a Challenge national facelift that has been carried out on the course in the past year will not be obvious to them. The one thing that all were agreed on after practice vesterday was that the beauti-

ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE HEAD OFFICE: G Dickers, P Rignal

ful South will not yield Stableford points without a

struggle to the death. Water has always been a feature of the course, but the lakes have been enlarged and made more of an obvious hazard than in the past. Often the water should not come into play, but everybody who has played golf will know that water attracts golf balls likea magnet picks up iron

To attempt to pick a winner

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UNITED DISTILLERS: I ROSS, G Haggart, 8 Miller, C Tennant, Lagrant, 8 Miller, C Tennant, C Tennant, C Tennant, C Tennant, A Jones, D Lait, M Margan. specific scheduled for this afternoon — his wife, Hillary. was due to speak at the Opera House on the subject "Women in the 21st Century" - and Norman had an early firstround hit-off time (Australian for tee-off) at The Australian.

punditry department. In the regional finals there was a

19-point gap between the low-

est winning score and the

highest, but a cogent argument could be made that the

three teams with 85 points

played as well as the Jaguar

Centre (Hull), who had a

If mere scores are an indica-

tor, Jaguar will take some

beating, but there were ster-

ling performances from all

their rivals. The most impres-

scoring was produced by Reu-

ter, winners at Chart Hills with 97 points, who scored 57

points on the back nine and 64

in the last 11 holes on the

demanding Nick Faldo-de-

Service of HM Customs and

Excise went closest to emulat-

ing Reuter, their front nine of

49 at the last regional final at Mentmore setting them on

their way to victory with 90

points. ZET Insurance Ser-

vices were the fourth and last

team to reach or beat 90 points

- their victory came at the

The above quartet will natu-

rally be among the favourites

for the winners' spoils after 36

holes of Stableford golf. How-

ever, let it be said that none of

the foregoing constitutes a

prediction. It is much, much

too close to call for that.

Forest of Arden.

The National Investigation

Challenge record-breaking 104 points in their regional

final at Breadsall Priory.

The venue was expected to be the New South Wales seaside links that might exhaust even the reportedly prolific presidential supply of mulligans if the wind blows. (Mulligan is golfspeak for having another go, if the first shot is not to your liking, and the President is supposed to be partial to them.)

In the morning, Norman will be playing with Craig Parry and David Glesson, an amateur from Oueensland who has been mixing in high company this week. Gleeson and Jamie Crow, who were in Australia's four-man team that won the Eisenhower Trophy, the world amateur team championship, in Manila last week, partnered Woods in

practice yesterday.

Gleeson even had the distinction of introducing Woods and Butch Harmon, his coach, to a bunker shot they had not seen before. It involved taking a right-handed club and addressing the ball left-handed, with the club-face towards the sky. The shot produced was a shovel-cum-scoop (when it worked at all), but Woods seemed intrigued and the trick might soon be incorporated in

Woods, 9-2 second favourite behind Norman, the 7-2 favourite, was scheduled to be the afternoon attraction at The Australian, playing with those old hands, Peter McWhinney and Peter Senior.

Robert Allenby returns to competition here, much earlier than anticipated, after fracturing his sternum in a car crash. His injuries have healed and he has played three rounds since Sunday, The 7,046-yard course will undoubtedly be too much for Allemby at present, but at least his rehabilitation is well under

Ďavid Howell, Gary Evans and Richard Boxall, of England, are also competing. along with Paul McGinley, of

SNOOKER

Hendry in competition focus for television action cue

BY PHIL YATES

STEPHEN HENDRY is not easily satisfied. Even after beating Rob Milkins 9-5, to reach the last 16 of the United Kingdom championship in Preston yesterday, the titleholder expressed reservations about his form.

Hendry has now won 14 consecutive matches in an event second only in prestige to the world championship, in which his unbeaten sequence stands at 25. The Scot's attempt to lift the UK trophy for the fifth time since 1989 continues on Saturday against Anthony Hamilton or David

Gray.
"I can't believe how badly I'm struggling," Hendry, who surprisingly entered the concluding session on level terms at 44, said: "I led 41 but the wheels fell off, so to say I'm relieved to get through is an

understatement." .Hendry won the scrappy opening frame of the afternoon to edge 5-4 ahead before delivering a crushing blow any lingering hopes Milkirs had of causing an upset, by recovering from a 45-17 deficit with a 77 clearance initiated by the potting of a long red.

With the exception of the twelfth frame, snatched by Milkins on the black after he had required a snooker, it was relatively plain sailing from that point as further runs of 56, 52, 69 and 61 ensured

Hendry's progress.

Despite his less-than-impressive start to the championship, and indeed to the 1996-97 campaign in general. Hendry remains optimistic about making a successful defence. "I'm expecting myself to fly now because when the television cameras arrive I always feel more at home," he said. Paul Hunter, 18, and Jue Johnson, his 44 year-old men-for, accompanied Hendry into

San amount folders

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the last 16 by overcoming Thai opposition. Johnson, the 1986 world champion, defeated Tai Pichit 9-6, while Hunter again underlined his potential by beating James Wattana, the twelfth seed, 9-5. Hunter, who became the youngest semi-finalist in a world-ranking tournament at the Regal Welsh Open in

fanuary, compiled four century breaks in securing a meeting with Terry Murphy, the conqueror of Ronnie O'Sullivan in the first round. The most prominent rookie of last season allowed Wattana to collect only 39 points in the closing three frames as he made runs of 105, 56 and 100. which followed clearances of 100 and 136 during the open-

ing session on Tuesday.
John Parrott, the 1991 UK champion, went into the concluding phase of his secondround match against Martin Clark last night 5-3 adrift and requiring six of the remaining nine frames to avoid an unex-

Results, page 49.

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Hendn

THE TIMES THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21 1996

RACING: BOOKMAKERS SHORTEN THE GREY MONK TO 7-4 FOR HENNESSY

Clouds gather over Suny Bay

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

THE GREY MONK tightened his stranglehold on the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup after Suny Bay, recently deposed as favourite by the Gordon Richards-trained chaser, suffered an internal haemorrhage at Kempton yes-

Suny Bay came home last of the five finishers in the Limber Hill Handicap Chase. The seven-year-old fell apart after two miles, prompting concern about his wellbeing, and his participation at Newbury a week on Saturday is now in serious doubt.

Charlie Brooks, who trains the horse, suspected the worst "He was disappointing," he said. "I expected him to run much better than that." And the trainer's initial concern

Nap: EASTERN RIVER (1.20 Warwick) Next best: Idiot's Lady (3.20 Warwick)

proved justified when his as-Suny Bay's bleeding to the Kempton stewards.

Bookmakers reacted by deillion leting Suny Bay from their Hennessy book, with William Hill advancing The Grey Monk to 7-4 favourite. The firm then bets: 6-1 Challenger Du Luc, 8-1 Billygoat Gruff, Coome Hill, 10-1 Addington

Boy, 12-1 and upwards others. Brooks said he would analyse a tracheal wash from Suny Bay before taking a firm decision, although he conceded Suny Bay was unlikely to rake his chance. But just as wonying are the implications for his stable as a whole. The horses have been running very well but what happened to Suoy Bay might indicate that there is a viral injection about," he said.

. It was not all bad news for Brooks. He watched Suny Boy's effort from Haydock, where Couldnt Be Better ran a. more encouraging Hennessy arial when chasing home Un-guided Missile in the Edward Hanmer Memorial Handicap

Couldn't Be Better won the Hennessy 12 months ago, tak- £270,000 in added prize money. ging in this prize along the way

2.00 TOTE BOOKDAKERS ROYCES HANDICAP

2.30 HAMELTON LITESTAT HANDICAP CHASE (26.775: 3m 1/1 110yd) (7)

CHASE: (£4,049-2m 50) (15)



Trying Again helps Osborne to a four-timer at Kempton yesterday. Photograph: Julian Herbert

emphasised that Gordon Richards, who trains Unguid- youth encourages the belief he ed Missile, houses an embar- may yet make his mark: Hills rassment of riches among

three-mile chasers. Addington Boy remains no more than a Hennessy deputy to The Grey Monk, but Unguided Missile may yet ac-company his stablemate to Newbury. The eight-year-old would he more celebrated were he less inclined to root

the odd fence. His relative rate him a 12-i chance.

Jamie Osborne dominated the card at Kempton. He rode three outright winners before forcing a dead-heat on Berude Not To, who dipped his head at precisely the right moment to share the spoils with Fine Thyne in the Halliford Novices' Chase. Appropriately

enough. Osborne initiated his winning sequence aboard Not For Turning, a three-parts brother to Berude Not To, who just contained Royal Event's late flurry in the EBF Novices'

David Gandolfo, who trains Royal Event, has Osborne on his side when Trying Again, a leading novice last term, jumped soundly to fend off Old Bridge in the Limber Hill Handicap Chase over 2½ miles. Gandolfo is keen to step Trying Again up to three miles in the Rehearsal Chase at Cheostow next month.

But the most promising display came from Mulligan, who ran clean away from his rivals in the Staines Novices Chase. On this evidence, Mulligan will be something to entertain in the Arkle Chase at

Pertemps sponsors Kempton festival

THE campaign to revive the fortunes of Kempton Park opened yesterday when for the Christmas festival and outlined plans for an £8.4 million redevelopment of the Sunbury site (Julian Muscat

In a one-year package, the Pertemps group, sponsor of three Flat classics, is to support all 12 races at the track's premier fixture. The deal has underpinned the two-day meeting, which will distribute

Kempton's link with Pertemps kickstarts the fixture's promotion as a major racing festival in the suburbs of London. "We are going to put every effort into achieving the level of success enjoyed by the three-day meeting at Aintree," Andrew Wates, chairman of United Racecourses (UR), said.

While upwards of 20,000 racegoers regularly flock to Kempton for the King George on Boxing Day, the Christmas Hurdle, which highlights the card 24 hours later, fails to attract half that g in this prize along the way

The Pestival's highlight is the £100,000-number. This is symptomatic of the
added Pestersps King George VI Chase, track's fortunes, which have declined

THUNDERER

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

Racecourse Holdings Trust (RHT), which bought Kempton, Epsom and Sandown in a package two years ago, is committed to revitalising the track. "Facilities are limited." Sue Ellen, managing director of UR, the umbrella company which runs the three courses, said. "Kempton has fallen behind other sporting facilities in this area and research has told us the course is not offering value to racegoers."

The planned grandstand renovation. together with a resiting of the paddock, is to benefit ordinary racegoers as opposed to corporate concerns. Banqueting suites implicap. "I thought he ran which is expected to attract One Man, defined response to the standard and because of lack of investment in facilities behind the stand are to be demolished.

Algan and Barton Bank, the last three over the last decade. "We have lost our allowing racegoers closer access to the winners of the race. Pertemps has also core audience," Wates accepted. "We horses. Work commences in February and is due for completion before the back."

Sporting Index 1.20 Flapjack Lad 1.50 Shuttlecock

2.20 Runaway Pete

limits risk factor

By Richard Evans RACING CORRESPONDENT

AN ATTEMPT to make sports spread betting accessible to small punters by reducing the level of financial risk was unveiled yesterday by Sporting Index.

Minimum stakes as low as 25p and a guaranteed maximum loss of £50 on any bet struck at the lowest staking level is aimed at eliminating the perception that the potential dangers of spread betting are too great for more modest backers.

Sports spread betting has been the betting success story of the 1990s but with punters liable to win, or lose, up to 200 times their stake -on Test cricket runs, for example - the risks are high and it has tended to attract the big backers.

The launch of Sporting Index Select is effectively a training ground for new clients who will be able to try out spread betting without losing hundreds or thousands of pounds if they get a bet horrendously wrong.

Compton Hellyer, chairman of Sporting Index, said: "We need to take our message to those punters who want to try spread betting with limited risk. Its brief will be both to explain and to protect. We see Select as opening up a whole new audience to spread betting and we expect to attract 2,500

clients by the end of 1997. He added: "Every bet with Select will have a fixed limit with regard to the amount that can be won or lost. And there is a maximum loss or win of £50 on any bet struck with Select at the minimum staking level. We will guarantee this figure whatever

the result." The Sporting Index inno-vation comes only weeks after talks broke down with City Index over a possible merger and before Ladbrokes enters the spread betting business.

☐ Tony McCoy was last night deciding whether to appeal against a three-day suspension for whip abuse. McCoy, who needs two more winners to reach the fastest century in a season, was banned for three days (November 28-30) by the Newton Abbot stewards on Tuesday for using his whip with unreasonable force aboard James The First.

2.10 COLIN MACANDREW MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (Amateurs: £2,700: 3m 30) (8)

#MASE (AJTRALOUTS: 122, FUUT: STIT SI) (0)

1 12(5 SCRABO VEN 8 (B.F.G.S) P Brawn 10-12-5 Mr R Thornton (5)

2 343 - ROYAL SAXD 385 (F.G.S) P Brawn 10-12-5 Mr R Thornton (5)

3 55-4 SPARROW HALL 14 (F.B.S) J Fixgerald 9-12-3 Mr C Mortell (7)

4 P116 BLAZBIG DAWN 9 (CD.F.G.S) J Hubbuck 9-12-3 Mr C Mortell (7)

5 41-P HURRICANE ANDREW 14 (F.B.S) J Moore 8-11-13

Mr N Wilson (5)

2,40 WASHINGTON HOSPITAL HANDICAP CHASE

2_(0.75; ZII 110y07 (0.7)

1 0-00 SSTER ROSZA 108 (0.5) Mrs. 5 Lamymon B-11-11 . A Dobbin

2 11-1 BRANTS DELIGHT 18 (V.F.G.S) R Akian B-11-10 (Wyer

3 2312* VAL DETRAMA B (F.F.G.) D Smith 7-11-4 P Nhven

4 2334 REVE DE VALES 25 (F.G.S) R Johnson 9-11-0 ... K Johnson

5 312* CINCULATION 9 (V.CD.F.G.S) D McCain 10-10-0 ... B Harding

6 -P44 MASTER SALESMAN 9 (D.F.G.) Mrs. V Ward 13-10-0

N Williamson

11-8 Brea's Delight, 9-4 Val de Rama, 9-2 Circulation, 7-1 Reve de Valee. 16-1 Sistes Rassa, Masier Salesman.

3.10 L C L PILS MOVICES HURDLE

(£2,355: 3m 3f 110yd) (14)

WARWICK

2.50 Dromhane 3.20 Sounds Strong 3.50 Break The Rules

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating; 3.50 CHICKAWICKA.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

Recected seamber, Sci-Higure form (F — tol F — pulled up. U — unseated index, B — brought form. S — stipped up. B — relused D — dispectable). House's name Days sonce text colong: F if Rat. (B — blookers, V — visor, H — throot. E — Eyesthield C — course warnen conditions with the conditions with the conditions with the conditions of the course warner. CD — course and destance whomer BF — beaten lawounter an largest race; Going on which horse has won (F — Birm, good to Birm, hard. B — good. S — cott, good to cott, hazay). Owner on backers Trainer Age and weight. Here plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

1.20 ETHELFLEDA'S MOUNT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE

(£3,149: 2m 4(110yd) (6 runners) P.10332 HEMLEY WOOD 7 (F.G.S) (A Scrimpeour) P Hobbs 11-11-10 ... D J Kavanagh 94 F141-32 FAPALACK LAD 20 (F.G.S) (T Durstey) N Intition-Durse 7-11-10 ... D Watesh 93 234442 CHANNED PASTAME 12 (D.B.) (Mr. 5 Worthampon) I Burchel 12-11-5. D (Mr. Lovis 86 Lip 2224 - RIVER RED 294 (F) (F. Ross) (F. Ross) 10-10-5 ... K Gande 90 23/3-312 CRACKINS PROST 27 (D.B.F. E) (Director For Seme) Nr. D Hame 8-10-3 G Rogan 94 Q/(F013 - EASTERN RIVER 247 (D.G.S.) (Samston Equate) T Forster 10-10-0 ... A Bates (B)

BETTING: 7-4 Rapjack Lad, 11-4 Channel Pactore, 3-1 Herdey Wood, 7-1 Crackling Fired. 10-1 River Al Eastern River. 1995: (ARRY'S LORD 6-10-12 Gay Lends (7-4) P Michalls & ran

FORM FOCUS

WERLEY WOOD 11 2nd of 6 to La Mazzary in handfeap chase at Fauntin (3m, good to firm) FLAPAICK LAD 2941 2nd of 8 to Marie 2841 in lasoficap chase at Fatentium (2m 51 handfeap chase at Bangor (2m 51 11 for handfeap chase at Winesmittin (2m 51, good).

Selection: FLAPAICK LAD

1.50 harbury selling handicap hurdle

Long handicagt Sir Papeard 9-13, Bright Sapphire 9-13, Colour Scheme 9-8, Katballou 9-3, Colour Scheme 9-8, Katballou 9-8, Colour 9-8, Colour

1985: CONVOY 5-16-10 Muretach Kelly (16-1) C Mann 18 rat

FORM FOCUS

CODWILL STEPTOE best Peter Morramy 211 m 15-moner sating anotice hurdle at Easter (2m 21, good to soil) on penultimate start, with KING OF BABYLON (16th better of) 1994; 4th ARCISCTS GROSS 394; 2nd of 14 to Burlengton Sam in goodstoral pockeys selling teaching handle at Ludlow (2m, good to firm) with SER PAGEANT (11b worse of) 744 fib.
SHUTTLECOCK best Notices 294 in 8-transer claiming hurdle at Sedgetield (2m 11, good to firm) on peaulitimate start GIBMANCER 294 2nd of 10 in Better Bythe Glass in selfing handicap hurdle at Manton Abbot (3m 31 good to firm) TAMANDU 6t 2nd of 10 to Willy Sar in selfing hurdle at Tourcester (2m, good) RAY REVER book of 541 4d of 11 to Minnesoto Fals in conditional jockeys selling handicap burdle at Worcester (2m, good to firm) on penultimate start, KIMG OF BABYLON beat Lac De Grass 31%1 for 6-minor selling handicap hurdle at Ludlow (2m St 110yd, Brm) on penultimate start.

Selscient SHUTTLECOCK

2.20 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE / JOCKEYS ASSOCIATION SERIES HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,909: 2m 3l) (7 runners)

Long handicap: Rosehali 8-7.

BETTING: 9-4 Grosseman, 3-1 Khaldi. 7-2 Rusaway Peta, 5-1 Domapoet, 7-1 Teen Jay, 8-1 Warstord Hal. 16-7

1995: NO CORPLESPONDING RACE

TEEM JAY hear Natur 1361 to 13-number handscap hadde at Warcaster (2m 48, good) on pentitionate start. RUMAWAY PETE 341-6 Bit of 10 to Castle start, RUMAWAY PETE 341-6 Bit of 10 to Castle start, RUMAWAY PETE 341-6 Bit of 10 to Castle start, RUMAWAY PETE 341-6 Bit of 10 to Castle start, RUMAWAY PETE 341-6 Bit of 10 to Castle start, RUMAWAY PETE 341-6 Bit of 10 to Castle start, RUMAWAY PETE 341-6 Bit of 10 to Castle start, RUMAWAY PETE 341-6 Bit of 10 to Tullymumy Toff in handscap handle at Heydrock local part of 10 to Tullymumy Toff in handscap handle at Heydrock local part of 10 to Tullymumy Toff in handscap handle at Heydrock local part of 10 to Tullymumy Toff in handlecap handle at Heydrock local part of 10 to Tullymumy Toff in handlecap handle at Heydrock local part of 10 to Tullymumy Toff in handlecap handle at Heydrock local part of 10 to Castle start, RUMAWAY PETE 341-6 Bit of Previously best Mostock 41 in 5-tonner bandscap burdle over course and distance (good to firm) burdle over course and distance (good to firm) ROSEHALL best Warntead sect, in 9-nature source and burdle over course and instance (good to firm) at Worcester (2m. good) GROUSEIAAN 31 3rd of Selection: RUNAWAY PETE (nap)

2.50 SHIRLEY MAIDEN CHASE (£3,691: 3m 2f) (9 numers)

27P. ANYTHINSYDUBE 270 (S) (Bowling Green Garger C Smith 7-11-5 M Richards - 342/00- CONEY ROAD 222 (bits M Ergrit) C Brokes 7-11-5 ... D Gallegher - DROBHANA (J Bacterel) P Nicholds 5-11-5 ... A P MeCloy - 4 RICH EMPEDR 8 (T CARRY A Carrol 6-11-5 ... T J Marphy - PFS2-4 PARLAMENTARIAN IS 1/ Violes 1 Casey 7-11-5 ... D Bridgester 93 RP/UP04-1 HE BRILD 22 (bits J Berlop) 0 Sheroved 8-11-5 ... J Debone 93 25655-5 THE SHY PADER 258 (M Baterran) Mby J Pluman 7-11-5 ... W Marston 89 RCCC MADAM 306P (FG) (C Batter) P Nicholds 7-11-0 ... O Burmywes (T) - PPTIC LADY 278P (D Sib) M Ppc 6-11-0 ... C Maude -BETTING: 5-2 Coney Rend, 4-1 Dromhaca, 5-1 The Brud, 6-7 Arctic Madem, 8-1 The Shy Padre, Peptic Lady 10-

1995: CLASS OF MINETYTWO 16 (F.G.S) 6-11-2 A Maguire (13-2) T Forsier 9 ran FORM FOCUS

CONEY ROAD 36 9th of 14 to Mandris Mantino in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 41 good to soft) BICH EMPROR 38 4th of 5 to Mony Stop in novice classe at Chesharten (3m 11 from) on penultomate start. PARLIAMENTARIAN dist 4th of 5 to Baronel in novice classe at Kempton (3m good) THE BRILD 324 4th of 10 to Probe Errand in novice chase at Kempton (3m good) THE Holl 14 th of 10 to Frobe Errand in novice chase at Chepstow (2m 31 110yd, soft) THE SHY SHY Selection: THE BRILD

3.20 SHIPSTON HANDICAP CHASE (£6,736: 3m 2i) (4 runners)

| 1911F-1 | DIDDT'S LADY 12 (CDLF.G.S) (Mrs. J Othean) Mrs. J Perman 7-11-10 W Marston 96 | 11113-2 CLASS OF NINETYTWO (CD) (Lord Carlogan) Cap T Forsier 7-11-5 A Pietcoy 94 | 11113-2 CLASS STROMS SS (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) O Netholson 7-11-4 A Magnes 97 | 1115-1 SOURCES STROMS SS (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) O Netholson 7-11-4 A Magnes 97 | 1115-1 SOURCES STROMS SS (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) O Netholson 7-11-4 A Magnes 97 | 1115-1 SOURCES STROMS SS (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) | 1115-1 SOURCES (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) | 1115-1 SOURCES (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) | 1115-1 SOURCES (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) | 1115-1 SOURCES (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) | 1115-1 SOURCES (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) | 1115-1 SOURCES (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) | 1115-1 SOURCES (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (S) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mr A Windle (7) (Mrs. David Theoremon) Netholson 10-11-2 Mrs. David Theoremon BETTANS: 7-4 Sounds Strong, 5-2 Class of Hanglyton, 11-4 Full of Cals. 3-1 Ident's Lady 1995: TDOGOOD TO BE TRUE 7-11-4 L Wyer (7-2) M H Easlerby 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

DIOT'S LADY best Rectory Gardeo St in 6-runner transferap chase at Unicoder (Sm 21, good to term)

CLASS OF NINETYTWO 71 2nd of 7 to Foots from the Indicap chase at Delete (2m 21 110)yd.

good to soft). SCHINGS STRONG best McGregor

The Third 61 in 6-runner transferap chases at Wetherby (3m 11, good) RULL OF DATS completed the Beaurepase mack at 12-runner handing point to soft). SCHINGS STRONG SCHINGS STRONG

3.50 ASHORNE NOVICES HURDLE (52,721: 2m) (15 runners)

FORM FOCUS

CHICKAWYCKA heat ABOVE THE CUIT (7th helter off) 71 in 15-numer novice burdle over clause and distance (pond to from) with THE DEACONESS (7th helter off) 23 lish. HARRICANE LAND 1748 (8th all 22 to Marching Marguels in National Hard Flat race at Sandtown (2m 110)ed, soil) with DON'T MARF 61 in TOWARL 184 at Townesses (2m, good to firm) WHITE 24 Sandtown (2m 110)ed, soil) with DON'T MARF 61 in CARRICE 184 (1st) 3rd of 5 to Trade Dispute in making Tripping The Line head on 10-numer National Hard.

Selection: CHICKAWYCKA

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS P Webber M Pige Miss H Knight D Nicholson O Sherwood Mrs J Pilmpa 37.5 4 P McCoy 25.5 A Maguire 23.7 J Ostome 21.5 D Bridgeater 21.1 D Gaffagher 20.9 W Marston 36 7 20 5 19.1 14.0 13 0 11 4

Return to action

LARGE ACTION, the Oliver Sherwood-trained gelding, will return from a long lay-off in tomorrow's Coopers & Lybrand Hurdle at Ascot. He has not run since winning the same race 12 months ago. Ladbrokes make Large Action 12-1 third favourite for the Champion Hurdle.



3.00 TOTE BETTING SHOP HANDICAP HURDLE 1 -113 HAMILTON SELK 12 (D.F.G), M Ppm 4-12-0 ___ R December (9) 98
2 4022 MORSTOCK 15 (CD.G) R Hodges 6-10-10 . T December (9) 98
3 01-2 PHAR FROM PURON 12 (D.F) G Balding 5-10-6: __ B Ferdon 97
4 014- VISION OF FREEDOM 174 (D.F.G) S Cole 8-10-5. A Thompson (8) 1.30 Ashby Hill. 2.00 Remellah. 2.30 LE MEELLE Imap), 3.00 Phar From Firmy, 3.30 Guinde. 4.00 Southsee Scandels. 4-5 Hamilton Sills, 7-2 Phur Festa Fenny, 9-2 Marstock, 6-1 Vision al Fession.

3.30 E B F TATTERSALLS TRELAND MARES HOWICES 1.30 UWESUSTILL STANDING HOVICES (Onalitier: £3,457: 2m) (5) HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,268: 2m) (5 runners) -1 3-64 VRAYFAYERS WRY 21 (EF) # Handsone 5-11-10 M A Fizzanti 97
7 5-66 ASHEY MEL 10F # Hour 5-11-4 D C Salman 94
23 -404 SAMAYA HAPA 25 Rey 4-11-2 T Junits 94
4 22-6 EEARDERA MASS 188 F Front 6-98-7 R Summondy 88
5 686 CALVARO 247 A Junits 3-19-8 R Juliasson 98

5-4 Second-Call, 11-8 Geneda, 5-1 Beblepark Rose, 10-1 Sout's Promise, 20-1 Up The Namon \$-11 Apley HR; 9-2 Waylaters Why, 8-1 Secreta Flora, 7-1 Cabana, 8-1 Electron.

| 16-31 | MARRIERS MIRROR 10 (C.5) N Testion-Decay 9-12-1 (fee) | Mr in famel 86 | 2 2-8 ZAJTOON 47 (F.S) D Nicholson 5-11-13 | R Johnson - 3 240- AU THE GROVE 139 N Balley 5-11-13 | R Johnson - 3 240- AU THE GROVE 139 N Balley 5-11-14 | S Decay - 3 240- AU THE GROVE 139 N Balley 5-11-14 | C O'Deyes - 5 121- RAMBALAN 1728 (G.5) Miss P-11-15 | S Wysins 18 121- RAMBALAN 1728 (G.5) Miss C-10-11 | R Demondry 94 | R 4551 | Miss C-10-11 | R Demondry 94 | R 4551 | Miss C-10-11 | R Demondry 94 | R 4551 | Miss C-10-12 | R 180-11 | R Demondry 94 | R 4551 | Miss C-10-12 | R 180-12 | R 18

COURSE SPECIALISTS SEGGEPELD: Trabatus: P Bowen, 5 winners from 12 numers, 41.7%; F Marphy, 3 trom 8, 37.5%; P Hastam, 3 from 9, 33.7%; Mar M Rendey, 70 from 255, 29.7%; Mar D Thomsson, 3 from 11, 27.5%; J Physicali, 13 from 51, 25.5%; Jochaya: Miss P Jenes, 3 winners from 4 arks, 75.6%; Jacobs Ulber, 6 from 14, 42.7%; P Prives, 57 from 176; 32.4%; M W Miss, 3 from 12, 25.0%; U Myer, 24 from 115, 20.5%; M Daryer, 22 from 112, 13.6%. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Sedgefield: 12.40 Fiveway Bues, 1.40 Rye Crossing, Alicherger. Werwick: 3.50 Evezio Bufo. Wincenton: 2.00 Stormhill Pilgrim, 4.00 Mr Jasper

4.00 GREAT WESTERN NOVICES HURDLE 5-4 Hunton Rock, 4-1 Captala Jack, 9-2 Millerstool, 12-1 Kitatington, 16-1 Nantaha, Nemesunic, 20-1 others WARCANTON: Trainers: M Pine, 35 wissers from 125 revolers, 27.3%; Miss H Kelght, 7 from 30, 273.3%; M Teisfon-Davies, 10 from 47, 21.3%; K Belley, 9 from 56, 164.5; A Tensel, 5 from 37, 16.2%; P Richols, 16 from 112, 18.1%; Jocksop, 87 Dawsondy, 29 wantes from 124 fales, 23.4%; P Hilds, 5 from 32, 15.6%; T Janes, 3 from 20, 15%; C Liewellys, 7 from 48, 14.3%; S Mickell, 8 from 65, 12.3%; T Dascorabe, 4 from 60, 10.0%.

12.40 JOHN WADE HIND TRUCK SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,933: 2m 1) (11 runners) 1.10 HATHAWAY'S LADY JOCKEYS HANDICAP 71-4 Huso, 3-1 Superiop, 4-1 Bains, 5-1 Manetiia, 7-1 Peggy Gordon, 8-1 giners 1.40 w a stephienson memorial novices CHASE (£4,133: 2m 5f) (16)

SCHEET)

12.40 Fly To The End. 1.10 Huso, 1.40 Twin Falls, 2.10 Sparrow Hall. 2.40 Val De Rema. 3.10 Our Rainbow. 3.40 Shining Edge.

HANDRICAP HURBILE (21.,933: 2m 1) (11 runners)

1 -305 ANDRAN 13 (CDF) G Moore 8-12-0 ... N Handby (7)

2 F642 FLYAMAY BLIBES 19 (8,87) Mas M Reveloy 4-11-10. P Riven

3 2-45 TREMINAL 5 (CDF) P Monteol 7-11-8 ... A Dobbin

4 F60 CHAPEL OF BARRAS I (4) (0,8,5) 8 Ge 7-11-7 ... A P Geo

5 1824 SIMAMO 37 (8F6) G Moore 4-11-4 ... If Calagnan

6 F-00 SAYRAF DANCER 6 May A Respitor 7-11-2 ... M Foster

7 5-83 ANTANTICTERN 19 6 Output 8-11-2 ... 6 Cala (5)

8 -P50 CANGOL LAD 51 (CDF,5) F Succey 9-11-1 ... 8 Storey

9 0501 FLY TO THE END 21 (CDF,5) J Duinn 6-11-1 ... L Wiver

10 GO-P HEAVENS ABOVE 37 F Murpby 4-10-0 ... X Williamson

11 PO-0 SHUT UP 21 (BCDC) MS E Moscey 7-10-0 C McCommack (7)

7-4 Pipeway Bloss, 9-2 Fly To The End, 6-1 Anovak, Trienmorn, 8-1 Stored Association, 29-1 others 7 S-10 PESSAY BURBLIN 21 (C.P.) was to impressor 3-10-5 Alles E.J. Jones (7) B /S-0 WE'RE IN THE MEDIEY 6 (G) Miss J Bower (2-10-0 Claudeon Fragglit (7)

2-4 Pre Consens, 5-1 Out Costum, Bassenfally, 6-1 Springhill Cusy, 10-1 Le Denstan, 12-1 Twin Falls, 16-1 others.

1 2112 SUPERFORD 26 (F.F.G) L. Lungo B-12-0... Miss P. Jones (S)
2 0-22 BANES 10 (BF) Mex A Santean F-11-2.... Miss Y Heigh (T)
3 -122 HUSO 6 (CD,F.S) P. Heslam B-11-2.... Miss Y Heigh (T)
4 345 JAMMETTM 21 (CD,F.S) Mex M Remainy 7-11-0 Miss A Daniel (T)
5 453- THIS SOLDIER 198 (ES) M Branchony 9-10-10... Ann Sainoid
6 45-P SOLDIMAN STRINGS 27 (M.F.) May V Mard 6-10-8 Jacqui Oliver
7 5-10 PESGY GORDON 21 (CJ.F.) May D Thomson 5-10-5
Miss E J. Jones (7)

THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O

(\$2,355: 3m 3f 110yd) (14)

1 0125 ARRANGE A GAME 5 (F) Miss J Bower 9-11-3. S Taylor (5)
2 41-U SWANNESTRE 10 (BEA.S) L.Lugo 6-11-3. M Foster
3 1243 SMART APPROACH 9 (BE.F) Mrs M Reveley 6-10-12 P Nivera
6 P CLOREOCHE LUCKY 40 J Micro 6-10-10. K. Joons
5 2342 CUPPER CDL 7 W Turner 5-10-10. J Power (7)
6 F SMCHARDE 194 Rhuptly 7-10-10. J Power (7)
6 F SMCHARDE 194 Rhuptly 7-10-10. M Duyler
7 5 LA CHANCE 12 Mrs H Widton 6-10-10. Mr A Walken
8 5-P5 RUBER 10 F.S.5) R Thomson 9-10-10. B Storey
20 WRODSTOCK LOCKE 572 V Thomson 9-10-10

10 C-HADANIAY LAS 209 H Johnson 4-10-4 N Williamson
11 5R-5 MCHESHAAR 10 L Longo 4-10-4 N Williamson
12 P GARL EARI 9 (5) M Servety 6-10-5. Mr R Thomson (5)
14 0-44 OLIR RAMBOW 13 Mrs P Sty 4-10-4 R Marriey
7-4 Swankister 7-2 Copper Coll. 6-1 Smart Approach, 8-1 Kocktoride, 10-1 7-4 Susphister. 7-2 Copper Coll. 6-1 Smart Approach, 8-1 Knochbride, 10-1 Menergaz, 14-1 Our Ramboo, Hadaway Lad, 16-1 Others 3.40 SEDGEFFELD PADDOCK BOOKMAKERS
HANDICAP HUROLE (£2,215: 2m 1) (6)

1 2-64 SHIRING EDGE 17 (F,G) I Estably 4-11-10 ... L Wyer
2 3300 EDEN DANCER 19 (BF-f) Mrs M (Reverby 4-11-7 ... P Abvan
3 F-40 UNITED FRONT 8 (D,S) 1 Nevelte 4-11-0 ... IN Williamson
4 2-0 TRIME 180 (S) Mrs A Symbant 5-10-13 ... J Supple
5 2224 MONOS 19 (F) 6 Moore 5-10-13 ... J Callaghan
6 P3SP COURT JOKER 10 H Alexander 4-10-0 ... B Storry
15-8 Syming Edge 3-1 Eden Dancer, 9-2 United Front, 5-1 Nances, 7-1 Territal,
14-1 Court John

(20.775: 3m 1f 11Dyd) (7) 1 2V RASHINECASH 594 (0.F.S) C Egenter 10-11-11 2 S-SP TUG OF PEACE 12 (CD.F.G.S) G Bridge 9-11-8 — B Cathorn 28 3 212- LE MESLE 22M (F.S) A James 7-11-4 — B Advancer ES 4 11- ABOREL LANAL 254 (6.S) R Batter 7-10-11 — C GOWNER 90 5 22P- SEAUREPHANE 225 (G.S) R Abore 9-19 — S Michaller 98 6 1132 RAMBERNY CASTLE 9 (EF.F.S) P Michalle 9-10-4 — P Helin 91 7 24- 160 NOVALER 302 (7.5) N Genative 9-10-4 — P Helin 91 7 12M-18M-17-2 Andre Land, 4-1 Registrations. 9-2 Rainbow Costle, 6-1 Reacrepart, 7-1 Mr Investor, 16-1 Top Of Pater.

Haydock Park Going: good
1.10 (2m hdie) 1, MARELLO (P Niven, 21), 2, Queen Of Spadies (C Lienethyn, 1-212n), 3, Anglassy, See View (T Kert, 20-1)
ALSO RAN: 20 Budled Term (D, 25Prusstan Eagle, 33 Cilburnel News (4th),
66 Meacametic, Mass Mort (5th), Promise
10 Try, Scally Hocks (5th), Sobe Brandy (I)
11 ran 254 281, 18, 29, 61 Mass Menelley
or Saltburn Tote, 22,80; 21,30, 21,10,
21,90 DF: 21,30, Trio, 22,50, CSF, 23,37
4,61 Centrics 5, SAMECOER (E Samele Going: good £190. DF: £1.30. Trio. £250. CSF: £3.37

1.40 (2m hdie) 1, SAMT CIEL, FR Supple, 11-8 bar, Thursdown's resp.); 2. Circus-Line in Devjor. 7-2); 3. Desert Fighter (Phiem. 5-1), ALSO Rick: 9 Holders He (I); 10 Euchesst (201), 14 Proposert George-(581), 25 Nochrighe Star (40); 7 (20) 14 2, 24: 1 kg in F-Jordan al Leoninsser Tote: £1.90, £1.20, £2.10; DF: £2.00, CSF: CS-22

2.50 (Complete Littles structs 4.800 of £1.00.

To 22

2.10 (3m ch) 1. UNGUIDED MESSILE (R)
Durwoodv. 10-11 lav. Richard Evature 1

Durwoodv. 10-11 lav. Richard Evature 2

2.00 (3m ch) 1. UNGUIDED MESSILE (R)
Durwoodv. 10-11 lav. Richard Evature 2

Tapp) 2. Couldn't Se Better (G Bandley. 1

ALSO RAN. 500 Ounced Crossett (6h) 4

Tan. NR. Suny Bay (4, 20) det G Richards at Gorge good to sock

12.50 (2m idle) 1. CAMARY FALCON (A)

12.50 (2m idle) 1. CAMARY FALCON (A)

2.60 (2m of hole) 1. TULL YMUJEN TOFF

Descontage.

iE Caltagram, 3-1); 2. Mython's Cholca (Mr. R. Thornton, 3-1); 3. Tumpole (P. Neton, 5-2 (So)). A SO RAN: 14-4 (P. Nothing Doing, 19-2 Shift Again (Sth), 8 (P. Nothing Doing, 19-2 Shift Again (Sth), 9 (P. Nothing Shift, 9 (P. Nothing Doing, 19-2 Shift Again (Sth), 9 (P. Nothing Shift, 9 (P. Nothing Doing, 19-2 Shift Again (Sth), 9 (P. Nothing Shift, 9 (P. Nothing Doing, 19-2 Shift Again (Sth), 9 (P. Nothing Shift, 9 (P. Nothing Doing, 19-2 Shift Again (Sth), 9 (P. Nothing Shift, 9 (P.

The state of the s

Placepot: £81.20. Quadpot: £21.90. Hereford Going: good to soft

Going: good to soft

1.00 (2m 11 hulls) 1, Crown And Cushion
(P Holley, 100-1); 2, Siberlan Mystic
(10-1); 3, Wamming Reat (5-1), Fursan 3-11
lav. 16 ran. 10, clast T Greathead Tote:
c138 40; 26 10, C260, c170 DF:
C255.40 Trior E121.80 (part won; pool of
c137.24 cannod toward to 2.00 at
Wincanton lookey, CSF-E824.25.

1.50 (2m 3f ch) 1, Poppets Pat (Mr A
Bakling, 11-1); 2, Prudent Paggy (10-1); 3,
Wayushill (4-1); Jav. Northam Optimet 41 **-lav. 13 ran. 144, 71, J Mullins Tote:
C18.00; c5.50, C2.40, c1.70, DF: C5.50.
Trio: S128.50 (part won; pool of S92.36
carried torward to 2.00 at Wincanton
today) CSF-E113.89. Tricast: E485.56.

2.00 (2m 1f hulls) 1, Glowing Path (J

3.00 (2m 3t 110yd hdle) 1, Lets Be Frank (R Johnson, 2-1 fav); 2, Raven's Roost (7-1); 3, Chol Hopper (10-1), 15 ran, 9, 21. N. Chance Tote £2.60; £1.10, £2.40, £2.60, DF, £10.40, Trio, £28.50 CSF; £17.98, Tricast; £117.44. 2.00 (2m 11 hdie) 1. Glowing Path (J Harts, 3-1); 2. Lawnswood Junior (7-2); 3. Scelp 'em (14-1). Alice's Mirror 6-4 law. 8. Placepot, £487.70. Quedpot, £28.80.

2.3.0 (2m ch) 1, Scottish Barnbi (A Tromton, 7-4 fav); 2, Poucher (5-1); 3, Normern Singer (9-1), 12 ran NIP Nordic Valley, 101, 12; P Webber, Tote, 52,70; \$1,50, \$1,40, \$4,30, \$0; \$3,40, \$16; \$2,50, \$1,40, \$4,30, \$0; \$3,40, \$16; \$2,50, \$1,40, \$4,30, \$16; \$2,50, \$1,40, \$1,40, \$16; \$2,50, \$1,40, \$1,40, \$16; \$2,50, \$1,40, \$1,40, \$16; \$2,50, \$1,40, \$1,40, \$1,40, \$16; \$2,50, \$1,40, \$1,40, \$1,40, \$16; \$2,50, \$1,40, #8290. CSF E126T. ITCSS UP259 4.00 (2m if fixt race) 1, Melstack Meggie (G Hogan, 8-11; 2, Lovely Rascal (9-4 fav); 3, Koshesn (9-2), 13 ran 2, 19i, Mrs J Pilman, Tole: 27.40, £2.00, £1.20, £2.70. DF: £12.60 Trio. £33.80 CSF: £28.49,

\$14.18. Tricast: C119.07. No bid.
2.38 (3m 1/110yd ch) 1, Don Du Cadran
(A Thomton, 6-1): 2. Mount Serrath (8-1),
3. Cardinal Rule (25-1). What's Your Story
7-4 law. 11 ran 71, 251. T Forgier, Tote:
57 70. \$1.80, \$2.90, \$8.90. DF: \$57.60
Trio. \$1.10.20 (part word; pool of \$141.31
camed lorward to 2.00 st Wincarton
today). CSF \$2.44.

early

promise

stifled

London Counties 20

By DAVID HANDS RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THERE have been some great divisional days at Twicken-

masochistic sort of way, was

one of them. Forget epics of yesteryear — against the 1951

South Africans, the 1988 Aus-

tralians, the 54,000 who

turned up to watch London

play the 1993 New Zealanders

the 22 players who wore

London's colours in front of a

paltry 1,000 people did so with

as much pride as any of them.

The motley collection of

students, teachers and the odd

electrician even had the temer-

ity to lead one of the world's

significant rugby-playing na-tions for much of the first half

before subsiding as weight

Only on Friday did London

know that politics would keep a swathe of first and second-

division players out of the action. The match XV had only

one training period.

What the Argentinians

made of it they were far too

polite to utter. By the time they

had scored their eighth try, six

of the players who appeared against South Africa in Bue-

nos Aires iast Saturday had

taken the field against opposi-

division down to the seventh,

where Nick Killick, once of

England under-21 and Harle-

quins, now plays.
Jose-Luis Imhoff, their coach, made the point that

not been knocked on, Jeff

Alexander's breaks might have created two further London tries. As it was, Alexander scored a try to go with

that of Rushin, a student, in Had Raymond kicked a

close-range penalty, London

would have led at the interval

instead of trailing 14-13. There-

after the Argentinians took

charge. Bouza scoring three

times from No 8 and Bartoluc-

ci running in from 85 metres to

provide a distinct highlight as

replacements, on both sides,

came and went like confetti.

SCORIENS: London Counties: Tries: Russini, Alexander, Conversions: Raymond (2), Penality goaler Raymond (2), Agenties XV: Tries: Bouza (3), Solari (2), Benoluco, Trassgliri, duradio, Conversions: Ouesada (7), Penality goale: Quesada (3).

LONDON COUNTIES: H Rushin (He A Pinnock (Havani), S Bovdell (Havani)

G Usmes, C Ves, P BOUZS Clasmatrons replaced by E Jurado (47); Arbizu replaced by JL Cilley (61); Bartolucci replaced by N Murands (76); Grau replaced by O Hasan (76); Liamés replaced by I Lobbe (76). Referenc G Smirnonds (Wales)

☐ Niali Hogan, the Ireland

captain and scrum half, is out

because of an ankle injury. Steve McIvor, of Garryowen,

is called up for his first full cap and Keith Wood, the

hooker, takes over the

captaincy.

of the international against

Australia on Saturday?

Argentina XV......

New league combines best of both worlds

By Christopher Irvine

THE Super League, finally free of all legal shackles, presented a bold future for the sport yesterday in the shape of a 22-team world club championship next year. Moreover, it is hoped that the threat of players moving to rugby union can be removed by a reshaped ten-month season.

In separate launches in Leeds and Sydney yesterday, details of the global vision were filled in after a year on hold. While league has been stuck in the starting blocks. union has seized the initiative in wealth and importation of several leading players from the other code for part of the

The crowded rugby league calendar apparently leaves no room for the new dual-code owned players mooted this week by Wigan and Wasps. For players now making a living from both sports it will probably mean a straightfor-

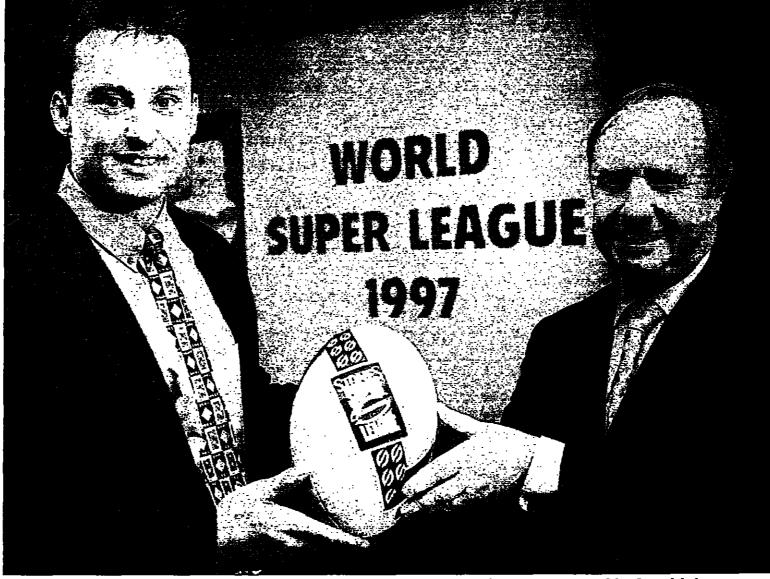
"I would be amazed if, with the programme we have, that a player wouldn't want to lie on a beach somewhere," Maurice Lindsay, the Rugby Football League chief executive, said. "I hope it would reduce the desire of someone to play union ... but players do like

A championship featuring the 12 European and ten Australasian Super League clubs is an exciting and progressive venture. No other club competition in sport emprinciple. Suddenly, rugby league's horizons broaden from the M62 to points 12.000 miles southeast.

Within the domestic Super League, which is starting a fortnight earlier than last season, on March 15, two threeweek breaks are built in for 60 pool marches. These will take place simultaneously on both continents. Teams that travel to the southern hemisphere for their first three games, in June, will be at home for the next three in July and August. If the launch yesterday is an

indication, logistical problems are just starting. The fixture list had to be redrafted at the last minute because some Australian grounds were unavailable. On the first three Super League champions, are at home to Auckland Warriors, Cronulla Sharks and Penrith Panthers, while Wigan are at Canterbury Bulldogs. Brisbane Broncos and Canberra Raiders.

Kind words at the Leeds launch about English clubs by Laurie Daley, the likely captain of Australia for their British tour next November. were put into perspective by Denis Betts, the Great Britain and Auckland forward. "I am sure that Wigan, St Helens and Bradford can on their day knock off a top Australian side. Whether they can do it consistently is another thing. For weaker sides you're looking at defeat by 50 points, until standards can be raised," he



Daley, left, the Canberra Raiders captain, joins Lindsay at the launch in Leeds of the Super League's vision for a global game

Given the potential for embarrassment, there is a contrivance to the competition's early stages. By an unwieldy system of qualification. Europe is guaranteed four quarter-finalists. Thus a side can lose most of its pool matches and still get a slice of the £1 million prize-money on offer from the last-eight knockout

Under the new marketing umbrella of Rugby League (Europe), the 12 Super League clubs are gradually getting

incentive of being able to keep all home gate receipts. Travel and accommodation costs are being borne in an overall £3.5 million package by the Super League backers. The News Corporation, parent company

Matches pitting two capital cities against each other, be-tween London Broncos and Canberra Raiders, fulfil Super League's global agenda, yet the essentially parochial nature of the British game is far from being overcome. For all its aspiring junior players,

London is still a team of Australian imports; Cardiff, Glasgow and Bristol remain dots on the map and Paris Saint-Germain is a proppedup token European representative.

in tones different from the expansionist talk of a year ago, Lindsay said: "Everything has been changing, in rugby union particularly, and our clubs need to stabilise. With the advent of this actionpacked calendar, there is no need for pressure to create

WORLD CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

they had only three days in which to prepare for the first international with South Africa earlier this month, but he will have been concerned that his side could have been pierced in midfield or outflanked with comparative ease. Had a couple of passes

& PUBLIC NO

FOOTBALL: ENGLAND GOALKEEPER FACES SPELL ON SIDELINES AFTER SUSTAINING INJURY IN PREMIERSHIP MATCH AT OLD TRAFFORD

Cracked ribs may deprive Arsenal of Seaman for key games



Seaman: derby doubt

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

DAVID SEAMAN, the England and Arsenal goalkeeper, could be out of action for up to a month after it emerged yesterday that he cracked three ribs during the I-O FA Carling Premiership defeat by Manchester United at Old Trafford on Saturday. It is the third time in his seven years at the club that he has sustained such an injury. Seaman, 33, is likely to miss the north London derby against Tottenham Hotspur at Highbury on Cup fourth-round tie against Liverpool at Anfield next Wednesday and the Premiership trip to Newcastle United three days later.

Seaman could play with painkilling injections, as he did in the European Cup Winners' Cup final against Parma in Copenhagen in May 1994. He also wore a body protector against Auxerre in the quarter-finals of the same competition last year. Arsenal won both

John Lukic. Arsenal's secondchoice goalkeeper, has been placed on stand-by. He has played only two games this season, conceding five goals in the draws against Chelsea and Aston Villa.

Chelsea have played down reports that they are about to sign Georg Koch. 24. the Fortuna Dusseldorf goalkeeper, Gwyn Williams, Chelsea's administration officer, said yesterday: "He's one of many players we've looked at but that's all it is, just looking." Dmitri Kharine and Kevin Hitchcock. Chelsea's first and second-choice goalkeepers, are injured while Frode Grodas, the on-loan Norway international, is due to join

Sturm Graz, of Austria, next month. Tony Yeboah, the Ghana and Leeds United forward, moved closer to a return to first-team action when playing for 90 minutes and scoring in

a practice match against Carlisle United yesterday. Yeboah, out with knee problems since March, said: "I need two or three reserve games, then I will be back in contention." Bolton Wanderers, the Nationwide

ATHLETICS

BAF tuning in to new

television contract

By David Powell athletics correspondent

THE pre-Christmas cash tills

are ringing for athletics. The

British Athletic Federation

(BAF), which confirmed yes-

terday that it had agreed a kit

deal worth a record £1 million

a year, is thought to be on the

point of announcing a new

television contract with Chan-

nel 4. At the same time, the

International Amateur Athlet-

ic Federation (IAAF), and the

two fastest men in the world. have been talking very big

A four-year deal between

the BAF and Channel 4 is

understood to have been

struck and the sport will

switch channels in 1997 after

12 years with ITV, which has

League first division leaders, have lodged an appeal against the sending-off of Jimmy Phillips, their defender, in the 3-1 defeat by Birmingham City at St Andrew's last week. Phillips was dismissed by Graham Pooley after an incident involving Paul Devlin, the

Birmingham striker. Devlin appeared to head-butt Phillips and, though Phillips was unburt and did not feign injury or retaliate. Pooley showed the red card to both players. Phillips was incensed and had to be restrained by colleagues as he walked off the pitch. Pooley later confirmed that he had sent Phillips off for the same offence as Devlin. Colin Todd, the Bolton manager,

has studied a video of the match and written to the Football Association. He and Phillips, who has already received a three-match suspension for his alleged part in the incident. will be supported in their appeal by Trevor Francis, the Birmingham

manager, and Devlin. ☐ The European Champions' League will be shown on terrestrial television until 2000. ITV yesterday completed an exclusive three-year agreement, worth an estimated £75 million, to show the competition. The deal will complete a £45 million-aseason package for ITV including the FA Cup, worth £15 million a season, and highlights of England

Dismissal of coach may prompt boycott

The signing of the kit deal, with Reebok, is a formality, SWIMMING coaches across Tony Ward, the BAF spokes-Indications in The Times last March that the IAAF

planned to introduce a \$100.000 (about £600.000) honus for world records at the world championships in Athens next year gathered sub-stance yesterday when a governing body source was quoted by Reuter as saying: "We have a sponsor who will put up to \$100.000 for world records." Prize-money will be paid at the world championships for the first time next

At a press conference on Tuesday, it was confirmed

to decide whether to boycott Bristol City Council, which has dismissed Eric Henderson, the head of its swimming

Henderson, a former Scot-land international, is claiming that he has been unfairly dismissed after 13 years, during which he has produced i2 internationals. He is appealing to the council against his dismissal and is being backed by the British Swimming Coaches Association (BSCA).

The BSCA yesterday sent out ballot forms to its members, asking them to vote on whether to boycott Bristol. given that the Amateur Swimming Association has backed moves for Clive Durran, a former development manager. to take temporary control of the Bristol scheme.

SWIMMING

unfairly dismissed, then it gives the impression that we as an association are condoning the way our colleague has been treated." A council spokesman said

the BSCA was "balloting its

members on unreliable infor-

mation". He said he could not

divulge details of Henderson's

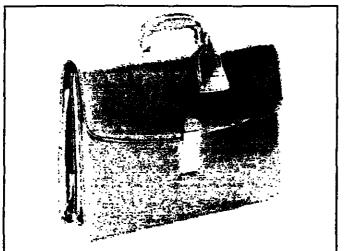
Britain were yesterday asked

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				Print Name	Expery Dato	į
Po	nt Code			Styrature	Date	
EN Erbe Balmain Broefcase	ΦY	E/11EM	TOTALS	FTS96, PO Box 323, L Alow 23 Cays for calling desember press reson	ntianos to 774E TIMES SUITCASE OFFER pighten Buzzand, LLT 7220. Itam recept of order (70x mediato in UF crty, 1 glocks with 7 days of recycl. by Lif miland, 1to	
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been dissatisfied with the way the sport is run in Britain. that Donovan Bailey and The new deal is presumed Michael Johnson, who set THIS elegant leather briefcase, from the two expanding compartments inside. to be worth much less than the world records for the 100 and It also features two internal expanding Pierre Balmain design studio in Paris, is the 53 million two-year contract 200 metres respectively last perfect accessory for busy executives. And at zipped sections and a concealed full length, with ITV, which is now at an summer, will meet in a \$2 £79.95 including free delivery for readers of deep outer zip pocket. Finished with a Pierre Notice is hereby given that the register end, but the guarantee of million challenge over 150 The BSCA form states: "If The Times, it is £50 off the mrtp of £129.95. Balmain leather identity tag, this businessof members will be closed from close of television coverage will immetres in Toronto on May 31, Designed to appeal to men and women, we as coaches are seen to like case gives the best impression instantly. the winner taking \$1.5 allow another coach to cover prove the Federation's negotithe briefcase is crafted from superb soft business on 22 November 1996 The briefcase is available in matt black ating power with sponsors. the programme of a colleague nappa leather. The flapover top lid is secured with gilt zip pulls and fittings by a quality combination lock and there are it measures 42cm x 30 x 11.5. TUESDAY'S LATE FOOTBALL RESULTS By order of the board. Fleming Investment Trust

TENNIS: GERMAN CROWD BOO LOSER IN ONE-SIDED BATTLE OF FORMER WIMBLEDON CHAMPIONS

Sampras humiliates lifeless Agassi

FROM DAVID MILLER IN HANOVER

A DISMAL year for Andre area with his foot. Absence of during the first two days here Agassi, by comparison with the standard of his own peaks, concluded with humiliation here yesterday at the world championship of the Associ-ation of Tennis Professionals. Troubled by a cold, unable or unwilling to run, he lost his opening round-robin match to Pete Sampras 6-2, 6-1, and was whistled and booed off court by a crowd of 15,000 who had paid a minimum of £70 a seat.

Agassi earned £50,000 merely for appearing as one of the eight top-ranked players. When realising the extent of his condition, as he must have done, he should have withdrawn, allowing Thomas Enqvist, ranked ninth, to replace him. His performance, whether or not he was unwell, whether or not Sampras hit a stream of blistering passing shots, as indeed he did, was an insult to the public, who justifiably felt cheated.

"I was feeling pretty weak, not fit to be playing well," Agassi, pale and despondent admitted. He had felt unwellsince before leaving Las Vegas, and did not venture to blame the crowd for their displeasure. "I felt worse than they did," he lamented. No

The imminence of crisis for the man ranked No 7 was apparent from the fourth game, in which Agassi had to save five break points in order to hold his service for 2-2. In the next five games, he took one point in the next nine, only six. When trailing 5-0 in the second set, he served an ace to ironic cheers.

At 2-2 in the first set he had provided inclegant evidence of his cold, blowing his nose without recourse to a handkerchief, spraying the ATP logo at the back of the playing area, and then smudging the damp

sympathy was unsurprising.

Agassi's conduct throughout the year, even allowing for his Olympic victory, has been incompatible with maintaining his eminence in the game.

He has played too few tournaments — only two since his surprising elimination by Michael Chang in the US Open — and had predictably been in no shape for Paris or Wimbledon. His commercial sponsors must be alarmed about their investment.

Sampras considered that this was the best he had played in some while. "I was in a zone - it was one of those days when everything clicks," Sampras, who won all of his 19 first-service points, said. "I've had spurts of tennis like

ROUND ROBIN; White group: G Nanisavic: (Cro) bt T Muster (Austria) 6-4. 6-4; Muster bt M Chang (US) 6-4. 6-3. Red group: P Sampres (US) bt A Agassi (US) 6-2, 6-1.

this, but not for an entire match." In truth, he had little to beat and can regard yesterday only as a warm-up for his group confrontations with Becker and Kafelnikov today and tomorrow.

Agassi has maintained his ranking with three tournament victories this year - at Key Biscayne, where Ivanisevic withdrew from the final. Atlanta and Cincinnati. Yet he has lost the past three meetings with Sampras, all in straight sets this year. He last beat him in the 1995 Canadian

GreenSet surface should, in theory, have been marginally more helpful to Agassi's rally-controlled tac-

about whether the court is fast or slow. It is designed by the American, Lee Frankel, formerly with Spalding, who created the company, with South African investment, in France in 1970.

Its most important characteristic is trueness of bounce and Michael Chang, when beaten by Richard Krajicek, the Wimbledon champion, on the opening day, declared that it was "fair to all players". Gordon Forbes, the former South African Davis Cun player, who works with GreenSet, considers that the big services of Krajicek and Ivanisevic would have been aces on any surface.

The proof of its trueness was provided in the opening match esterday between Chang and Thomas Muster. Chang lost for the second time, 6-4, 6-3, thereby putting him out of the running for the semi-finals, but it was a delightful encounter with both men artfully using the whole of the court.

Chang sometimes had trou-ble with his timing, though Muster was consistently striking the ball the more fiercely. Ungainly in appearance, he sometimes has the appearance of a squaddie tackling an assault course, but his accuracy and control of length are at times phenomenal.

"It was nice to play tennis," Muster said, with a touch of sarcasm, remembering how he had been well beaten by Krajicek on the first day. "It was nice to run, to play shots, to fight for balls, to get a chance. Yesterday it was completely different."

He conceded that Chang had not been as aggressive as usual, making many unforced errors. "I put him under a lot of pressure with my foretics. There has been debate hand," Muster said.



Sampras hammers down a service during his straight-sets drubbing of Agassi

SPORT IN BRIEF

Australia restore Little on the wing

AUSTRALIA'S rugby union team to play Ireland at Lansdowne Road on Saturday shows six changes, two positional, from the side that defeated Scotland at Murrayfield (Karl Johnston writes). Jason Little, recovered from injury, is at right wing, as Tim Horan, who played there against Scotland, reverts to centre, to the exclusion of

Pat Howard. George Gregan is preferred at scrum half.

Dan Crowley, who arrived in Ireland on Tuesday to replace the injured Richard Harry, takes over at loose-head prop. Michael Brial comes in at No 8, while Daniel Manu moves from that position to blind-side flanker. David Campese has been omitted again.

Campicsc into Decri Offilier again.

AUSTRALIA: M Burke (New South Wales), J Little (Queensland), D Herbert (Queensland), T Horan (Queensland), J Roff (Australian Capital Temjory); D Knox (ACT), G Gregan (ACT), D Crowley (Queensland), M Foley (Queensland), A Blades (NSW), D Manu (NSW), W Waugh (NSW), J Eales (Queensland), M Bnai (NSW), Replacements: P Howard (ACT), S Payne (NSW), A N Other. A Heath (NSW), M Caputo (ACT), A N Other

Britons progress

SQUASH: Britain's two highest-ranked men progressed to the semi-finals of the world open championship in Karachi yesterday. Peter Nicol, from Inverurie, beat Craig Rowland, of Australia, and will face Jansher Khan, the defending champion from Pakistan. Chris Walker, from Colchester, outplayed another Australian, Brett Martin. Walker will play Rodney Ayles, also of Australia.

Brundle unhurt in crash

MOTOR SPORT: Martin Brundle, right, crashed during a practice run for the Network Q/RAC Rally yesterday, damaging his Ford Escort. The former Formula One driver was not hurt, but he and his co-driver, Roger Freeman. were forced to continue in a different car. Brundle, preparing for his rally debut this weekend, was on a reconnaissance drive of one of the Welsh stages when he slid off an icy track and down a bank.



Burden on course

TENPIN BOWLING: Gemma Burden, from Westonsuper-Mare, who is defending her women's singles title. lies in fifth place after play yesterday in the World Cup in Belfast. Burden, 18, is still on course to qualify for the quarter-finals. Although there are players from 71 countries competing, it is expected that the United Kingdom's other representatives will all progress to the round-robin stage.

Parlier hits trouble

SAILING: Yves Parlier, leader in the Vendée Globe nonstop single-handed round-the-world race, may be forced to retire after the forestay and jib furler on his yacht Aquitaine Innovations broke in brisk southeast trades. ☐ In Rio de Janeiro, the BT Global Challenge fleet

yesterday set sail on leg two of the round-the-world race to Wellington in New Zealand, more than 7,000 miles away.

Gunn downs Howell

REAL TENNIS: Ruaraidh Gunn, the No 8 seed, beat 5. 2-6, 6-4 to reach the quarter-finals of the British Land British open championship at the Queen's Club yesterday. Gunn. 23, one of the new breed of sponsored tournament professionals, raised his game on the big points and at 5-5 in the fourth set kept his nerve to see off his mentor.

Ailing Seles forced to consider surgical solution

IN NEW YORK

THIS is a good time of year to he a physiotherapist here. The best and the richest players in the women's game have gathered at Madison Square Garden for the Chase championships and they have brought with them a year's The winner's cheque will not necessarily go to the best player, rather to the last woman standing come the final on Sunday.

On Tuesday night, Monica

shoulder injury that has trou-bled her since the Australian Open in January. Playing her first-round match against Kimiko Date, she called for the trainer after seven games and received treatment for a few minutes before deciding to continue. She could only manage to win one more point and. retired at 5-4 down.

She must decide whether to have surgery to repair the damage or endure another year of playing in fits and starts as the pain allows. Her dilemma lies in the long recovery time from such an operation - at best she would be out of action for three months, but it could be longer. Even if she went ahead with the surgery right away she would not be able to defend her Australian title, the one highlight of her difficult year.

Her father. Karoli, is rather daughter's well-being than with her tournament record, and on Tuesday he was frantically signalling from the courtsoon as she called for the

SNOOKER

that Seles will never regain her position as the undisputed world No I because she cannot shake off the emotional traumas of the stabbing incident in 1993. By comparison, a torn shoulder muscle is just a problem waiting to be solved.

"Surgery is a tough decision to make because of the long don't want to jump into it too quick. We thought about it after the US Open but with what's been happening this side for her to withdraw as year it's been tough, not just physically but mentally too."

18-9, 15-13; P Nicol (Scott) bt C Rowland (Aus) 15-13, 15-6, 16-9; Jensher Khan (Pak) bt Parke 15-3, 15-4, 15-8; R Eyles (Aus) bt Zubar Jahan Khan (Pak) 15-17, 13-15, 17-15, 15-7, 15-6

TENNIS

NEW YORK: Women's Termis Association world championship: First round: K Date (Japan) bt M Seles (US) 5-4, ret S Grad (Gerj bt K Habsudova (Slovako) 8-1, 6-4

Since she came back to the WTA Tour her ranking has been protected and only recently has she lost her automatic right to the joint No I position with Steffi Graf. Now, with a new ranking system coming in next year to encourage the top players to play more tournaments, her place in the world order will suffer if she is out for three months, "I think we need more top players playing each other more often," she said. "but the demands on you are really tough. There is never time to

from the losses." As for Graf, she is battling on through her own injury problems. She is a good person to know should you fall ill away from home and she is quite serious when she says she has the private telephone numbers of the top physicians in any city in the world. But in nothing seems to have focused her mind more than the threat of losing. On Tuesday she dismissed all thoughts of her chronic back injury and beat Karina Habsudova 6-1, 6-1.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

The defence's second trump trick disappeared in an unusual way

FOR THE RECORD **BADMINTON**

SHEFFIELD: International match: Chine to England 3-2: (England harres tris): Man's singles: P Knowles lost to Ji Knophry 15-15-15 Man's doubles: CP at and N-Paborison to Wasng Jan and Market 1-13, 18-17 Whomen's singles: T Woodwind lost to Lu Lu Fang-11-1, 11-3 Women's doubles: J Goode and G Covers 15-2 to Char Hong and Lu Lu 15-7, 15-8. Mined doubles: Hurt and J Wingt to Chen Was and Lu Zhong 15-5, 15-3 So-match series farched 3-3

BASKETBALL NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NEAT Toronto-98 South 106 Cloveland 73 Atlanta 62, New York 95 Orlando 88, Houston 102 Mannes 86 Maria 104 Goldon State 109 LA

EUROPEAN CUP: Group H: Arkara (Tis) 79 Londor Towers 61

CYCLING GHENT SIX DAY RACE: Leading post-lors after find, day: 1, 8 Rs. and K Belachat Rang, 115ps; 2, 8 Kapper and K Wat (19) 16, 8, 5 Kaphrella and M Waz (1) 73, 4 M Gamper (Aus) and J Pu Storm (Dem 64, 5, E de Wilde (Bel) and A Bar (5 6,2 6, J Veggerby and J Madsen (Den) 77

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL LEAGUE ININCI. Odawa 1 New Jersey 2, Persburgh 4 St. Laus 2: Tampa S.-y 3 Le. Angeles 0: Tampa 4 Buffair 3: Variables 2 Datas 0: ELIROPEAN LEAGUE: Manchester Storm Olubo 1960; 11

REAL TENNIS QUEEN'S CLUB Brosh Land Brosh Open (GB uness stated): Second round: M Happell (Aug) bt D Jones 6-1, 1-6, 6-3, 6-3, R Quan bt J Howell 6-4, 6-5, 2-6, 6-5, Physical (Aug) bt P Belle 6-3, 6-0, 6-3, J Smar bt N Pendingh 6-1, 6-0, 6-0

RUGBY UNION Counties of Origin Series Landon Counties 20 Argentina XV

29 N Zealand News

TODAY'S FIXTURES

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Pre-mier division: Everton v Nottingham Forest (7 0), Second division: Hull v Rothestern (7.0), Stockport v Barnsley FA YOUTH CUP: First-round replay Bottmemotium v Yeovit.
SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Under-19 Trophy: Detbyshire v Notistphanistrie: (Alterion FC, 7.15) English Knowles Cup: Essex v Kent (Gloucester Bowl, 7.30). Oxford United Cup; Vate of White Horse v Mid Oxon (Abangdon). Weish Schools Glyncoed Shield: Dyfed v Carditt (Lianelli FC, 70).

SQUASH

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budweiser Lazgue: Leop-ards v Sheffield (7 0) ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Bracknell v Natungham: (8.0); Cardiff v Basingstoke (7.0). REAL TENNIS: British Open (Gueen's Cuto).

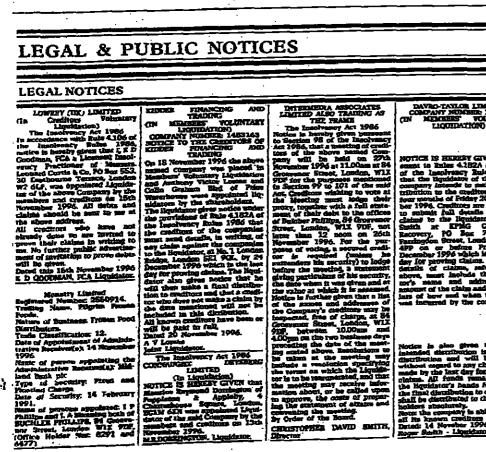
PRESTON: United Kingdom champlonship: Second round (England unless stated): J Hagaris (Scot) 94. M Campball (Scot) 95. A Hobidoux (Carl) isr SLee 96. T Marphy (N Ira) bt M Price 98. N Bond bt J Swal (N Ira) 96. S Hendry (Scot) bt R Mikins 95. J. Johnson bt T Pichu (Thai) 96. P Hurtler bt J Wattane (Thai) 95. B Fraddon (Scot) bt R Lawler 97. A McMarus (Scot) leads G Waldinson 5-3; K Broughton Irel with C Small (Scot) 44. M Williams (Wales) leads Y Morchant (India) 7-1, M Carls leads J Parrott 5-3; D Gray level with A Hamilton 44. **TENPIN BOWLING** CASTLEREAGH, Northern Ireland: World Carp Leading positions (after 24 gernes) Ment 1, P Neporruceno (Phil) 5,141 pts: 2 6 Buegato (b) 5,177, 3, S Mazzoog (UAE) 5,087 Women: 1, S Zullett (Malay) 5,057, 2, C Honsychurch (Aus) 5,026, 3, G Burden (Eng) 4,910. KARACHI: World Open: Second round: S Parke (Eng) bt J Bonetat (F1) 15-12, 12-15, 15-10, 17-16, B Manth (Aus) bt S Fred (Ger) 15-12, 15-9, 15-13, Charter-freds: C Walker (Eng) bt Martin 15-10, 12-15, VOLLEYBALL

OSAKA, Japan: Men's world super challenge; Holland bt South Korea 15-5, 15-4 enge; Holland bt South Korea 15-5, 15-4, 15-6; haly bt Yugoslava 15-9, 15-17, 15-13, 15-8; China bt Japan 4-15, 15-8, 15-9, 7-15, 15-13

POOLS DIVIDENDS LTTLEWOODS: Trable chance. 24pis 2407 70, 23 £17 05, 22 £1.25, Hall-time result £83,333.35 Four draws £5.00 Ten homes £511 35 (paid on nina) Five aways £948 50

VERNORS: Trable chance, 24pts £120.20, 23pts £7.95 (two dwdends only) Super Shots £22.35 (paid on two scorers in correct order) Premier 10 £216.00 (paid on eight). 2ETTERS: Treble chance: 240ts £33 10, 23 £2.20. Four aways £129.60. 8 homes £247.40 Five draws £5.00. Super 7 £212.00 Lucky numbers 24, 32, 25, 33, 22.

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CHRISTOPHER DAVID SMITH

وأدمينه والمراجعة والمتعددة

NOTICE IS HERREY CAVEN, par-sumet to Eules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Implymery Rules 1986, that the Highdator of the obove company Intends to make a dis-relation to the meditors within four portains of Friday 20 Decem-ters 1986 Conference remains intended distribution is a fina distribution and will be under the the theory of the the theory of t

Dated the 14th day of Rosember 1996. LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY &

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on this hand, from the trials for this year's England team. Game all • K 6 5 **₹**J642 **+AJ53 \$65** N ♥Q 10 9 8 W **♦ K** 9 8 **+10742** S **#QJ9874** +Q8732 **TAK3 4 D 6** 4 A 10 3 Pess 3 S 2 C (1) All Pass Pass Pass

(I) Natural - i.e. showing an opening bid with clubs the ongest suit.

This was the auction with Senior South and myself North, Senior ducked the king of clubs, took the second club and played a third club. On this West misguidedly ruffed in with the nine of spades. Senior overruffed and led a low spade from dummy. East

position by rising with the ace of spades and leading another club, which would promote a trump trick for West and still leave the defence able to collect a red-suit trick in the endgame. But East played low on the spade, and so when Senior won the queen he could return a second spade, crashing the defence's trumps. Now he won the heart return in

could still have retrieved the

hand and cleared hearts, so he emerged with ten tricks. At the other table the stakes were higher - South was in Four Spades. Unfortunately for our team the defence went exactly the same way.

Should West ruff in on the

third club? Where it gains is if the declarer has four clubs and better trumps - ruffing prevents the declarer from getting more than one club ruff, as West can then ruff the next one. I suppose it depends on your signalling methods if West knows East has six clubs, he should not ruff the third club. Then he will make a trump trick by force whenever his partner has the ace. Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

TARTAREAN a. With yellow teeth b. Infernal c. Bidding farewell

TUTRESS a. A lady tutor b. A battlement embrasure c. A widow's peak

THRASONIC Boastful b. Brave c. Faster than sound UPAS a. Overhead

b. In step

c. A poison tree

Answers on page 50

KEENE on CHESS

Ne2

Bya6

Bb2

Oc2

Ng3

32 Qg5+ 33 Qd6+ 34 e7

36 Kg3 37 Kh4 38 Kxh5

39 Kh4 40 g4 41 kh5

13 a4 14 Qd3

Nra6

Qd7

Nb8

Not

Nb3 Oxa4

Nd7

N±16

Roe1 Re3 Roe6

Kg7 Qe8 Qe7

gun5 h.f8 Kg8 Qc1+

0c2± 0d3+

Qe2-

Oe4-

Qe1+

Diagram of final position

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Brilliant sacrifices

Many experts regard Avro 1938, the tournament held in various cities in Holland, as the strongest in the history of chess. Indeed, the list of participants, that included Alekhine, Capablanca. Borvinnik and Euwe, held the world championship between them. broken only by slight intervals, from 1921 until 1963. Although first prize was

shared between Reuben Fine.

the American grandmaster, and Paul Keres, the Estonian grandmaster, the accolade for the most brilliant game goes to Botvinnik's marvellous series of diversionary sacrifices against Capablanca. Botvinnik regarded this game as his own personal favourite, and expert opinion considers this the greatest single game of chess ever played. Not only are Borvinnik's sacrifices brilliant and original, he also had to see his way in the closing stages through a maze of complications in which one false step would have allowed the black queen to salvage a

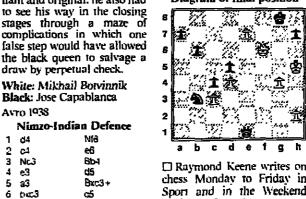
White: Mikhail Bowinnik Black: Jose Capablanca Avro 1938

Nimzo-Indian Defence Ma 2 c4 **e6** 3 NG **e3** 5 a3 Bxc3+

exd5

6 pc3

7 c.d5



☐ Raymond Keene writes on section on Saturday.

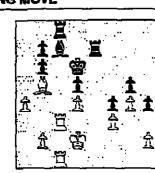
chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Alekhine — Anon. Simultaneous Display 1944. Although Black is trapped in an uncomfortable pin on the c-file, he probably did not expect to be mated in short order. However, that is what happened. How did

Solution on page 50



Alan Lee previews the Test series being billed as 'The Decider'

Warne's return shifts balance of power

lia, and the profound regret of West Indies' batsmen, Shane Warne is fit to resume his phenomenal Test career here in Brisbane tomorrow. Only now, with the months of helpless uncertainty behind him, is Warne prepared to confess to what might have been, to reflect upon days of depression when he feared

he might never bowl again. The return of Warne is enough to make Australia favourites for this first match in a five-Test series porten-tously billed as "The Decider". Without his extraordinary talent, the odds would have been markedly different, as might the outcome. His case refutes the theory that one man cannot make a team - take away Warne and Australia are fallible.

Yesterday, re laxing with only a cigarette in his 'He has an precious right hand. Warne reastonishing lated his low points during the 30 wickets six months since he submitted to here at 10.4 surgery on a damruns apiece' aged joint on the ring finger crucial to his bowling.

"There were stages," he said slowly, "when I thought about what would happen if the finger never came right. What would I do? How would I get by? They weren't nice

"It has actually recovered at just the speed the doctors told me it would, but it has seemed a long time and, naturally, it's been worrying. It was only last week, when I bowled 40 overs in the second innings of a [Sheffield] Shield game, that I felt, wow, this is what I want,

I'm back." Warne, 27, bowled in severe discomfort during the World Cup in March and has played no international cricket since. He had hoped to return for the short tour to India last month, but explains: "I didn't go because I feared I'd be letting my mates down." Without him, Australia lost the single Test and all of their one-day games, a chastening experi-

Answers from page 49

Tartarean Sulphur, and strange fire."

verbiage of German nautical enthusiasts

TARTAREAN

with their virtuoso restored.

Having imposed severely on various bodily joints in the five years since his Test debut. Warne can have no long-term immunity from injury, but he is taking ample precautions. "I have ice and massage on my hand, forearm and shoulders every time I bowl and I put a brace on the finger each night," he said.

One precaution he rejected, however, was taking out insurance on that spinning finger. "My dad is in the business and he touted the idea round some companies two years ago," he said. The ones willing to do it came up with a premium of \$12,000 labout E5,700] a year. I told him it was far too much but, just recently, I've begun to wonder." It is a measure of the

advantage bestowed upon the Australians by Warne's recovery that the West Indian net practice yesterday was conspicuous by its spinners. At the request of the Australian selectors,

the Queensland club declined to provide any local clones of Warne to help the visitors. They must be wariest of him here, on the Gabba ground, where he has taken an astonishing 30 wickets at 10.4 runs apiece in only three Test matches.

The pitches have been good for me." he said. "They generally turn towards the end, not far but quickly." Then, flicking back the dyed blond hair over the gold Nike earstud, the man they call "Hollywood" dismissed the theory that he might be negated by the West Indies succession of lefthanders

The lefties have an advantage if I'm bowling badly, that's for sure," he said. "But if I am bowling well. I enjoy them, because there is always some rough around their off stump and they have got to play at every ball. I've been mucking around in the nets with some different ideas to try

WORD-WATCHING

(b) Of or belonging to the Tartarus of the ancients. Hence pertaining to hell or to purgatory. Infernal. The place name of the imagined Tartarus. Milton, Paradise Lost, ii, 69: "Mixt with

(a) A tutoress, from the Latin tutrix with a feminine ending stuck onto tutor. "A Tutrix or Regent, during the minority of her supposed brother."

(a) Resembling Thraso or his behaviour. Given to or marked by

boasting. Bragging, boastful, vainglorious. Eponym of Thrason, the name of a braggart soldier in Terence's Eunuchus. It is a

name built from the Greek thrasis bold, spirited. "The thrasonic

(c) The Javanese tree, Antiaris toxicaria, the milky juice of which

contains a virulent poison and is used for tipping arrows. Fable has it that a putrid steam rises from it, and that whatever the

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rob+! bxob 2 Rxob+ Kd7 3 Rg6+ Kd8 4 Rg9+ Re8 5 Rxe8 checkmate



Warne, in typically aggressive mode, is back to face West Indies after an operation on his spinning finger

against them — no secret new deliveries, just variations of

angles, things like that." Warne spent five minutes yesterday with a matey arm on the shoulder of one of those left-handers, Brian Lara. They may not be so chummy tomorrow, when their personal duel will be central to the result of this match and the direction of the series.

The only threat to Lara's participation was that one further disciplinary transgression would lead inevitably to suspension by an administration that, it might be thought, has sacrificed a cap-

COUNTLESS numbers of

sports coaches labour for

years to mould teams in their

own image, to create a unit of

men or women who will carry

loyally their mentor's philoso-

phies onto the field of play. It

is a daunting task, but one at

which Mike Gatting is prov-

Having taken the England

A side under his wing at short

notice, after Graham Gooch

cried off to tend his sick father.

Gatting has, in just over three

weeks, succeeded in imbuing

the players with a mind-set

that unerringly reflects his

own cussed approach to the

business of winning cricket

There could be no more fitting setting for this exercise than Australia, where a de-

cade ago, Gatting reached the

peak of his powers as the

ing remarkably adept.

tain and a management strucwould be dropped down the order to protect him from the new ball if the latest West ture to accommodate him. Certainly, after a saga of sulks and scrapes, Lara can consider himself highly privi-leged to be appointed vice-Indies opening pair should fail, Lara will continue at No 3

tomorrow captain to the wondrously age-Australia's lingering anxiety less Courtney Walsh. Howwas lifted yesterday when ever, Clive Lloyd, whose ret-Glenn McGrath, the strike bowler boasting 80 wickets from his first 20 Tests, was urn to active involvement as team manager is surely a catalyst for more settled times. declared fit after a heel injury. takes a sympathetic view, "Bri-Matthew Elliott, who has the an got annoyed when he was adhesive style of Bill Lawry, doing so well and the team will go in first with Mark Taylor as both teams try to was losing," he said. "I am not sure he was enjoying his banish unhappy memories.

cricket, but I think he is now."

Despite speculation that he

CRICKET

Gatting proving his pedigree

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN MELBOURNE

Virtually every other England team to venture here since has failed to capture the

flame that Gatting lit. Now he

has returned, and a smoulder-

ing sense of expectancy has

settled around the 14-strong

Sussex yesterday agreed to grant Alan Wells permis-

sion to speak to other coun-

ties. Wells. 35, has two years

of his contract remaining

but requested a move after

Sussex stripped him of the captaincy three weeks ago.

party of Test hopefuls that he

match." Gatting said. "The batsmen in particular have

got better. They have realised

what is required in Australia

We've improved with each

The last time the sides met in Australia, West Indies won

"Australia is only as tough

as you make it. If you are

prepared to get in there and

compete with them and get on

top of them, then they are

nowhere near as competitive.

If you can compete with them

in the field then they are not as

tough as they look when they are steamrollering you. That really is what it's all

about. It's almost like getting

the first punch in. The good

thing about the side here is that

they have shown the appetite to

compete. They have been a bit

quiet at times but we have

impressed upon them that there

Toughness. competition.

punches: the Gatting lexicon

rumbles with the aura of

combat. For the younger Eng-land A players, the roly-poly, grizzled figure marching by

their side is a guardian angel

is no reason to do that."

demonstrating it was no more ALISTRALIA (from: M A Taylor (captain), M T G Bilott, R T Porting, M E Wescht, S F Wasgh, M G Bevan, I A Heety, S K Warne, F R Reinte, G D McGrath, M S Kasproviez, J N Gilespie WEST 9NDES (from): C A Walsh (captain) S L Campbell, R G Samuels, B C Lara, S Chandespaul, Ct. Hooper, J C Adams, R I C Holder, J R Marray, I R Bishop, C E I Ambrose, K C G Benyamin.

and now they are intent on than a blip on the graph.

Curtly Ambrose took seven wickets for one run. But more recently than that, more painful for the deposed champions to recall, was Australia's triumph in the Caribbean last spring. It was West Indies' first series defeat in 15 years

Brilliance of Rhodes

Grainns (Symphony No 4 in E mirror)
9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday. Includes Mifhaud (La Créstion du Monde); Haydn (Symphony 96 in D. Mirade)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Nick Morgan. Includes Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 5 in D); Marais (Sufte in C); Judith Weir (Distance and Enchantment)
12.00 Composers of the Week: Bartok and Kodaly. Includes Bartok (Hussay, Saven Children's Choruses); Kodaly (Nights in the Mountains)
1.00pm News; Opera Matinée. Includes Mozart (Cosi fan Tutte) recorded last year at a series of concert performances given by Simon

performances given by Simon Rattle and the Orchestre of the Age of Enightenment in Symphony Hall, Brimingham 4.25 Lyric Quartet, Bartok (String

Cuartet No 2 (f)
5.00 The Music Machine, Tommy
Pearson and Ensemble Bash
are joined by students from
Feltham's Longford
Community School to
examine whether it is
PECESSAY to see of lots of

necessary to spend lots of money on percussion

instruments
5.15 in Tume, with Geoffrey
Baskerville, Includes Ovorek
(Forsalem, Op 32 No 1); Bech
(Frelude and Fugue in 6
sirap minor); Schumenn
(Fartasy in C, Op 131)
7.30 The Royal Concert. In aid of
musical charities, recorded
vesterniay at the Brazel Albert yesterday at the Royal Albert

Ticking bomb pompon on two legs

Beaumarchais. Radio 4, 11.00pm.

Craig Warner's serial about the French playwright whose non-theatrical activities were breathtakingly improbable, though nonetheless mostly verifiable, continues on its winning way. Last week's episode saw Beaumarchais (Henry Goodman) stripped of his civil rights after challenging and defeating parliament. Tonight, he is sent to England by Louis XV to defuse a two-legged bomb that could cause heavy damage. The dangerous device turns out to be something not even Beaumarchais' unbridled imagination could have dreamt up. The ticking bomb is played by Bill Nighy. Without giving anything away. I think I can safely say you have never heard him doing anything like this on radio before.

Lunchtime Concerto. Classic FM, 2.00pm.

The name Nino Rota should mean something to you if you know fine film music when you hear it. He scored most of Fellim's films. I can whistle the theme from Zeffirelli's Romeo and Juliet and Visconti's The Leopard. Little is worth remembering about The Glass Mountain except his music, which was ruined by a ridiculous operatic turn in the plot. His score for The Godfather was worthy of the film. But there's much more to Rota than film music. He wrote operas, ballet music, oratorios and cantatas. His tuneful Concerto for Strings is played this afternoon by the Accademia Bizantina under Strings is played this afternoon by the Accademia Bizantina under

RADIO 1

7,00am Chris Evens 9.00 Simon Mayo, includes two classic years in the Golden Hour 12.00 Lisa l'Anson includes et Hour 12.00 Lisa (Anson includes at 1.40 The Scul Classic 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodler, includes at 5.30 Fixes The Scul Classic 2.00 Evening Session. with Jo Whiley and Stave Larracq 9.00 Soundbite with Denny Kelly 10.00 Mark Raddille, live from Manchester 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 4.00am Clive Warren, with the Early Reselfast Show

RADIO 2

6.00mm Martin Keiner 7.30 Wakes Up to Wogen 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debble Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Helen Shamma 7.00 Children in Need, The 24-hour music Children in Need. The 24-hour music marathon 8.30 Judi Spiers 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Stave Madden, includes at 1.30 Pause for Thought 3.00

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00mm Morning Reports 6.00 The Breaklast Programme, Incl at 6.55, 7.55 recing preview 8.35 The Magazine, with Diana Madit 12.00 Midday with Mair. Diene Maditt 12.00 Middey with Meir, Incl at 12.35pm Moneycheck 2.05 Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide, Incl at 5.45 Enterteiment News 7.00 News Edra, Incl at 7.20 Sports Bulletin 7.35 On the Line 8.05 Inside Edge 9.06 SportsAmerica 9.35 Sportshop 10.05 News Talk, 11.00 Night Edra, with Valerie Sanderson 12.05am After Hours — Early Cell with Vincent Hanna 2.06 Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00mm Early Breeklest 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Anna Ree-burn 2.00pm Tournty Boyd 4.00 Drivetime, with Peter Deeley 7.00 Mozz Dee's Sportszone 10.00 James Whale 1.00mm Ian Collins

McGregor, Includes Strauss (Serenade in E flat, Op 7); Brahms (Symphony No 4 in E

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. News on the hour. 5.30am Europe Today 6.30 Europe Today 7.15 Off the Shelf 7.30 Network UK 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Compose of the Month 8.55 Headin Matters 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Sports International 9.45 Sport 10.30 BBC English 10.45 CRI the Shall 11.30 Meridian On Screen 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 British Today 12.30 Assignment 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multimack 3.05 Sport 3.15 Jezz Nowand Then 3.30 Network UK 4.15 World Today AS BBC English A 45 Pethiol Today 4.30 BBC English 4.45 Britain Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sport 6.30 Assignment 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 John Peel 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 British Today 9.30 Meridien Books 10.30 World Today 10.45 Sport 11.10 Take Rive 11.15 Global Gardening 11.30 The Ed Stewart Show 12.30 am Good Books 12.45 Britain Today 1.30 Outlook 1.55 Words of Faith 2,30 Pick of the World 3,15 Sport 3,30 Focus on Faith 4,30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

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On Service

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F TO THE RES

4:00em Merk Griffiths 6,00 Miles Read 9.00 Henry Kelly 12,00 Susannan Strons 2.00pan Lunchtime Concerto. See Choice 3.00 Jamle Crick 6.00 Newsnight 6:30 Soneta: Debussy (Soneta for Flude, Viola and Henry) 7:00 Travel Guide. Malcilves 8.00 Evening Concert. Sibelius (Pelleas et Melisande Suite, Op 46); Nielsen (Violin Concerto, Op 33); Svendeen (Symphony No 2 in 8 flat, Op 15) 10.00 Michael Meppin 1.00em-Selly-Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00mm Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience 10:00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeramy Clark 4.00 Nicky Home

Kovacevich, piano, Adrian Thompson, tenor, Fanfare Trumpeters of the Royal Military School of Music, Royal Artiflery Band, conductor Lt Col C J Ross, Parel Philippropers Orchand Royal Philharmonic Orchestraction Daniele Gatti. Their performance included

Beathoven (Overture Coriolan and Pierro Concerto No 5): Strauss (Fanfare der Stadt Wien and Don Juan); Richard Rodney Bennett (Sonnet Sequence)
9.35 Outriders. Peter Watkins, film-maker and aflegorist of mass media
10.00 Music Restored. Chris de

Souzz introduces the first tour programmes recorded last month at the Royal Academy of Music, London, to mark the 450th anniversary of the death of Martin Luther. The Cardinali's Musick are directed by Andrew Carwood in chorales and motets from the earliest years of the Lutheran Reformation, Including pieces by Johann Walter and from George Rhau's 1544 publication Newe Deudsche Geistliche

10.45 Night Waves. Michele
Roberts explores the image of
the Virgin Mary in the
Imagination of Western
culture and investigates the
work of Jeroslav Pelifican, who has spent more than 40 years on Marian academic studies am Jazz Notes. Features the

BBC Big Band in session with lazz and blues guitarist Jim . Mullen 1.00em Through the Night

GIFT IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS. PRICES INCLUDE DELIVERY TO EU CLATUMERS (REST OF THE WORLD ADD II PER ITEM), SEND SAE FOR FURTHER DETAILS. STERLINGUS DOLLAR CHEQUES ONLY (II-USS) SO, — SPELIAL OFFER II off any three books puremased. IMMES GROSSWURDS. — Books 19, 112, 213, 425 each The Times Consise. Book 2 (240 purifies to 28, Books 45 £1.75 each, The Times Two. Books 46, NEW Dolk 5 £3.85 each, Aler The Times Que Book 1996, 447, Crossword Solver's Deixionary III.95 (UK only), NEW for Christmass. The First Omnibus Book of The Sunday Times Consisted. The June Solver's Deixionary III.95 (UK only), NEW for Christmass. The First Omnibus Book of The Times Convention. The June June and June Dollar Consistency of the June Convention of Later. The Times District Consistency of the June Dollar Consistency of the June Convention of Later. The Times District Consistency of Later, The Times Convention of Later. The Times Convention of Later. The Times Convention of Later. The June Convention of Later. The Later Convention of Later. The June Convention of Later. The Later Convention of Later. The Later Convention of Later. The Later Convention of Later Convention o England captain, bringing and now they are performing unafraid of getting his hands home the Ashes. quite well. GRRRAND NATIONAL WINNER

matches.



puts India in trouble

INDIA failed to gain the upper hand on the first day of the first Test match against South Africa in Ahmedabad yesterday after winning the toss and deciding to bat. At stumps, the home side were 215 for eight on a pitch that is expected to take spin.
Jonty Rhodes was outstand-

ing in the field for South Africa. It was his acrobatic leap at mid-wicket to catch Sachin Tendulkar for 42 when the India captain was beginning to dominate the bowling, that put his side back in control. He followed that with a direct hit to run out Azharuddin for 35. The former India captain walked before the third umpire had had time

to watch the replay.

With Rhodes having removed India's two most dangerous batsmen, Allan Donald cut through the middle order with three wickets, to leave India struggling at the close. Donald was hostile and fast, while South Africa's two spin bowlers, Adams and Syrncox, bowled tightly.

There was some controvers surrounding the officials. George Sharp, the English umpire, turned down a confident leg-before appeal from Donald against Manjrekar from the first ball of the day, and De Villiers was also turned down by S. K. Bansal. the home umpire, against the same batsman. Television replays suggested that these appeals were more convincing than the decision that went against Mongia.

INDIA: Fast himgs S.V. Manyekas b Admen.
H. R. Mongis Bur b De Villers
R. S. Drawe Swit b Symbols
S. R. Torolder c Reported b Symbols
V. S. Libertan Tow b Donald
S. Josh e Hudson b Donald
J. Smath e Cultian b Donald
A Kreibe per ore Eptrops (75 7, mb, 37)

Total (6 wids) ... FALL OF WICKETS: 1-22, 2-63, 3-98, 4-129, 5-159, 6-165, 7-133, 8-196 90WLING: Donald 23-11-33-3; De Wilera 15-3-53-1; McMillan 11-4-20-0; Cromp 5-3-8-0; Adams 17-2-46-1; Symook 21-5-48-2. SOUTH AFRICA: "WF J China, A C Nucson, G Kinten, D J Coffeen, J N Proces, B M McMStar, 10 J Richardson, P L Symon, P Side Witers, AA Dorald, P R Adams.

Pakistan have dropped Aamir Sohail, the experienced opening batsman, from their 12-man squad for the two Test matches against New Zealand, the first of which starts today in Lahore. Zahoor Elahi replaces him.

RADIO 4 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping 5.55

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58
Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze,
with Michael Buerk, Dr David
Cook, Janet Daley, Michael
Manssield, OC and Dr David

Mansfield, OC and Dr David Starkey 19.00 News; The Hearts and Lives of Men (FM), by Fay Weldon, With Jerny Funnel and Catharine Monis (5%) 19.00 Delly Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW) 10.30 Woman's House, with Jenni Murray 11.30 From Our Own Correspondent, Reports from BBC reporters around

Correspondent, nepons from BBC reporters around

the world 12.00 News; You and Yours 12.25pm Foul Play, Simon Bratt challenges the crime writers
Val McDermid and Lindsey
Davis to solve a mystery. With
Lee Simpson and Merig
McErlane 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick

1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shapping 2.00 News; Change of Heart, by Robin Kelly, Originally commissioned as part of the Your Material Ended Miles

Young Writers' Festival, With SUzarme Packer, Steve da Costa and Zha Sattar 3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift, with Daire Brehan and Sanon Wart Dark eineren and Simon Hoggart 4.00 News 4.05 Kaletdoscope, Paul Alien sees a new verse play at the National Theatre set around a Samural warrior

in love 4.46 Short Story: A Sort of Leve Story by Tom MecDonagh

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6. LW 198, MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE MW 938, 909. WORLD SERVICE MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Pater Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemany Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNanzara.

Colemen's comedy series set in arts broadcasting. A mysteriously beautiful woman appears to Brian. Sheena investigates financial inegularities on aci-fi series. What is the himself. rregularities on What is the bizarre What is the bizarre Starring Geoffre Front Writehead, Rebecce Front and Joanna Monro
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Radio Livees Freya Stark. A look back at the career of the bravel writer with Peggy Peynolds (4/6)
8.00 Analysiss Running Britain.
Peter Keitrer chairs a discussion on the relationship between civil servants and the Government. 8.45 The New Recruit: Refuse Collector. A retired dustman passes on advice to a young nopetul (3/4) 9.00 Does He Take Sugar? With.

Frederick Dove 9,30 Kaleidoscope Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Lady

Chatterley's Confessions, by Baine Feinstein, Read by

Amanda Root (9/10) 11.00 Beaumarchais See Choice 11.30 Ad Life (FM) Robert Robinson meets ghost writers (r) 11.30 Today in Parliament (LW) 12.00 News Incl 12.27am Weather 12.30 The Late Book: The Shipping News, by E. Armie Proux (SnO) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

Pomposity bypass op fails to save Edgar

o Nigel Hawthorne copped he lot in the last episode of Paula Milne's drama The Fragile Heart (Channel 4) - not only horrible death, but contrition and redemption on top. Poor old bloke. If ever a character was treated as a moral punch-bag it was Edgar in The Fragile Heart, it was a miracle how Hawthorne managed a performance of such dignity. Last night, in a preposter-ous U-turn, pulled-up Edgar recanted medical certainty and denounced the hands-off shortcomings of his own profession. To an appalled congregation of sur-geons, he preached "Modesty, I now realise, is my ally and not my enemy. Well, pass the sick-bag, mother. Remember David Tomlinson in Mary Poppins sud-denly hurling his bowler in the air and singing Let's Go Fly a Kite? It's no exaggeration to say Edgar's conversion was as deep and real as nauseating details, Edgar's mirac-

the start. The Fragile Heart was beautifully made and very well acted, but Milne's script was so oppressively schematic that watching it was like being buried under a mounting pile of carpets: Once you knew the story was about cold. male science versus warm, holistic healing, there was nothing to wait for except the next weighty Axmin-ster to be chucked, crushingly, on top of all the others. God, it was annoying. Meanwhile, Milne dispensed justice to her characters with the same high-handedness she decries in the medical profession. What happened finally to the devious Nicola, that chip off Edgar's block? Well, she was humiliated and punished, of course! Sent off to lowly work in an American public hospital! Tee hee, serves her

For those who can stomach the ulous conversion included hug-

wife, and declaring an off-the-cuff patients' charter. His long-suffering family applauded vigorously and a chorus of You Need Hands was only narrowly averted. Edgar continued to have his nightmare about the doctor who froze to death in a train refrigeration unit even though the refrigeration was not furned on, and its significance was finally explained. If a man can so convincingly imagine himself dead (Edgar reasoned), he can also imagine himself well! Unfortunately, he worked this out only just before his heart condition killed

ver on BBC2, anyone looking for laughs would have been disappointed. On the other hand anyone wavering about suicide would have said oh. thanks a lot, cheers, and turned up the gas. Concerning the effect of REVIEW

Lynne

Truss



farmers, Modern Times: A Pleasant Land was the slowest, dullest and most depressing documentary in recent memory, with no narration or music, and nothing of interest happening except in the abbatoirs. Farmer's daughter sits in farmhouse hunched over Gameboy. Bip, bip says Gameboy.

Bip, bip, bip (pause), bip. Watching A Pleasant Land was BSE legislation on West Country awful. Put it this way, if we wanted

would emigrate. Farmers sat glumly in a silent pub (the only pub in the country not playing Britpop) and swapped boring remarks. Cows queued up for death and dismemberment. Moo. Blood dripped off a saw. Depressed farmers' families wordlessly arranged bales in field. Cow eyes blinked and slaughterers sloshed water up their gory, tattooed arms.
"Where's the beef?" the viewer

was justified in asking, even if the question was a tad insensitive. The point seemed to be that beef farmers have to wait their turn for the cull, and nobody tells them anything, and they fill in forms and carry on as usual, and make boring phone calls, and the overall result is a sort of tick-tock existential drama in which the stun gun at the abattoir begins to represent a welcome end. But personally I wouldn't call it entertainment. The decision to have no commentary

to see East European television, we was a brave one, I suppose, but the yawning emptiness did not lend grandeur or depth to the piece, it ist made it boring.

> t was down to Gary Rhodes to complete a whizz-bang eve-ning of telly the world could live contentedly without. Yes, he's back, the man for whom a bad hair day would be a blessing for the rest of us. Is anyone else embarrassed by Gary Rhodes's vertical trademark hair? Anyway, Open Rhodes (BBC2) sees crazy-haircrazy-guy Gary attempting to fill the Wednesday night culinary gap left by Two Fat Ladies, but this is, alas, a challenge of some magnitude, and the effect is of replacing two big comfy sofas with a kitchen

Finally, it behoves me to say that if tonight's episode of EastEnders (BBCI) is truly the last appearance of David Wicks (Michael French). then he ought to get a proper sendfrom a grateful viewer. It's not unusual for a single cast member in EastEnders to carry a major plot for a few weeks imminent to departure, but Michael French has not only juggled several at once, he has grown more impressively dex-trous as the weeks have passed. "What about David, then?" we

fans have said to each other. Brilliant, he's brilliant." The villainous don't-trust-me glint in David's eye has long gone (formerly it was always spotted over the shoulder of a cloying Cindy. accompanied by the weasel words "I promise"), and its disappearance was perfectly judged. Now David's promises are as empty as ever but, because his intentions are virtuous, the effect is tragic. David, we will miss you. You are the best actor in EastEnders. And if you don't leave tonight, incidentally, I am going to look a right charlie writing this.

EBG1

6.00mm BUSINESS BREAKFAST (50247) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefe) (81518) 9.00 Breakfast News Edra efax) (6070063)

9.20 STYLE CHALLENGE (s) (1270570) 9.45 KILROY (8) (8739044) 10.30 CAN'T COOK, WON'T COOK (s)

11.00 NEWS (Ceefax) (2522957) 11.05 THE REALLY USEFUL SHOW (S) (4140976) 11.45 SMILLIE'S

SMILLIE'S PEOPLE O'Hanion (s) (6967228) 12.00 NEWS (Ceefas) (4883957) 12.05pm SNOWY RIVER: THE McGREGOR

SAGA (s) (2544518) 12.50 COUNTRY WALKS TO CURIOUS PLACES: Pure Poetryl (17485518) 1.00 NEWS (Ceefax) (84605)

1.30 REGIONAL NEWS (14142686) 1.40 NEIGHBOURS (Ceetzx) (s) (24053686) 2.00 CALL MY BLUFF (s) (1841) 2.30 THE TERRACE (s) (686)

3.00 INCOGNITO (s) Quiz (8696) 3.30 LITTLE BEAR (5800266) 4.00 Alvin and the Chipmunks (8130518) 4.20 3465 Jekyl and Harriet Hyde (8095179) 4.35 Smert (1781131) 5.00 Neueround (8236841) 5.10 Byker Gross (Cestar)

5.35 NEIGHBOURS (r) (824773) 6.00 NEWS (Ceelax) and weather (315) 6.30 REGIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES (995) 7.00 WATCHDOG Consumer magazine

(Ceefax) (2957) 7.30 EASTENDERS Joe's vision of the future is shattered as David makes some momentous decisions (Ceelan) (s) (179) 8.00 ANIMAL HOSPITAL Reporter Staye Knight joins RSPCA inspector John Bowe and the Metropolitan Police as they check animal transporters on the motorway

8.30 2POINT4 CHILDREN Domestic comedy. home are shattered (Ceefax) (s) (8452) 9.60 NEWS (Ceefax) REGIONAL NEWS and

weather (3179) 9.30 THE THIN BLUE LINE Grim attempts to join a secret lodge and Fowler is informed that an flegal asylum-seeker has taken refuge in the town (Cestar) (s) (67228) 10.00 CROCODILE SHOES When Jed is charged with possession of drugs, help s from a rather unexpected quarter.

With Jimmy Neil (2/5) (936402) 10.55 QUESTION TIME David Direbleby chairs a discussion from Glasgow. His guests are a tormer Changalor of the Exchequer, Norman Laraont; Aschy Kirkwood, the Liberal 'Democrat Chief Whip: Brian Wilson, a member of Labour's election strategy team; and Winnie Ewing, MEP, President of the SNP (Castex) (192131) 11.85 CLIVE ANDERSON ALL TALK (1)

(Ceefax) (575995) 12.30am Fills: Dreem Lover (1986) with Kristy McNichol. Psychological thriller about a young women who saeks therapy after an attack Directed by Alan J Palmer (131445) 2.10 WEATHER (7990822)

oPtus+ and the Video PtusCodes VideoPlas+ and the video Plastones The numbers next to each TV programma asting are Video Plastode" numbers, which allow you to programme your video records instendly with a VideoPlas+" handest. Tep in the Video Plastode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplas+; "), Plastode (") and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gernstar Development Ltd.

6.00am OPEN UNIVERSITY: Databased Akis (2323537) 6.25 Sensing Intelligence (2302044) 6.50 Open Advice (9039112) 7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (Ceatax and Signing) (5161402) 7.30 Perils of Peneloge Pitstop (4846179) 7.55 Blue Peter (7367773) 8.20 Noddy (3465112) Peter (767773) 8.20 Noody (3465112) 8.35 The Record (6670792) 9.00 Daytime on Two: The IT Collection (1298978) 9.25 The Art (6057112) 9.45 Writing and Pictures (6233268) 10.00 Playdays (35841) 10.30 Storytime (3600334) 10.45 The Experimentar (4127808) 11.05 Space Ark (2536150) 11.15 Pracising Bellet (5152711) 11.35 Landmarks (8398792) 11.55 Bellet File (6978334) 12.15pm Hallo Aus Berlin (7888650) 12:30 Working Lunch (78334) 1.00 Lifeschool (82247) 1.30 Heading South (77605) 2.00 Noddy (56286957).

2.10 THE FUGITIVE (5579150) 3.00 NEWS (4999315) -3.05 WESTMINSTER (Ceefax) (6487570)

3.55 NEWS (5619063) 4.00 TODAY'S THE DAY (808) 4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (792) 5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (9006976) 5.40 Proc Leith's Tricks of the Trade (639792) 5.50 A Week to Remember (b/w)

6.00 STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE (Ceetex) (s) (716792) 5.40 QUANTUM LEAP (r) (Ceefax) (899624)

7.30 FIRST SIGHT (421) WALES: The Works EAST: M: atter of Fact WORTH CAST, Malber of Fact MIDLANDS: Midlands Report NORTH/NORTH EAST/NORTH WEST/SOUTH WEST/WEST: Close Up SOUTH: Southern Eye

THE WORKS The story of Veronica Guenn, the investigative reporter murdered in Dublin by hired killers (Cestax) (s) (9247) WALES: Roll Over Beetho

8.30 TOP GEAR Test driving Mazda's RX01 sports car (Ceefax) (s) (1082) 9.003RD ROCK FROM THE SUN Sally setzes command when Dick gets taste for smoking (Cestax) (s) (4421)



Neurologist Ofiver Sacks (9.30pm)

THE MIND TRAVELLER with Oliver Sacks (Ceefax) (s)

(341150) 10.20 10 X 10 (s) (577860) 10.30 NEWSNIGHT (Ceefax) (998402) 11.15 LATE REVIEW (s) (513995) 12.00 THE MIDNIGHT HOUR (s) (36532) 12.30am THE LEARNING ZONE: OU:

Dam THE LEARNING ZONE: O U:
Forecasting the Economy (12464) 1.00
The Eurovision Song Contest —
Counting the Cost (80984) 1.30
Modelling in the Motor Industry (93990)
2.00 FETV Short Cuts: Understanding
Organisations (14613) 4.00 Languages:
Now You're Talking/Bon Mot (10025)
5.00 Business and Work: The Small Business Programme (98629)

CHOICE The Works: Dying For the Story BBC2, 8.00pm (Wales, 7.30pm; Scotland,

The death of the Irish journalist Veronica Guerin, shot dead in her car as it stopped at traffic lights, was particularly shocking. As a fearless reporter of the Dublin underworld she had attracted enemies. She had been threatened, shot at and assaulted. But murder was something else. The film reminds us that Guerin had come to journalism late and had only been a crime eporter for two years. Her brother says she did not realise how deep she was going and suggests that her paper might have given her more protection. But it seems unlikely that she would have opted for a less dangerous beat. From recollections of friends, colleagues and family, she emerges as the best type of journalist and human being, as nitted to her craft as to her husband and

Women At Play: Women With Balls Channel 4, S.OOpm

One of the less publicised aspects of the revolution in rugby union is that clubs are opening up to women. It has even happened at Harlequins, breaking an alf-male tradition that has gone back 130 years. But being Harlequins, the club insists that its female team is called ladies, not women. The cameras follow the ladies through their first season, during which they score 136 points. And that is in one match. From this limited glimpse, the on-field activity seems no less competitive than in the male game. The same can be said for the after-match same can be said for the anter-match drinking, though the Harlequins ladies seem less inclined to sing dirty songs. The idea of women playing rugby does not meet with unanimous approval. "My God! You'll be wanting to father children next," says one appalled male.

Channel 4, 8,30pm

Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall's quest for left out Eddie Baines and Steve Donovan. Brits they may be, but their passions come from the other side of the Atlantic. In culinary terms this means the Mexican chilli. When they cook their wives dinner to celebrate their joint wedding anniversaries, you can be sure it is chilli with everything. "I don't think it will be a romantic evening, fears one of the spouses, preparing to have the roof of her mouth blown off. But Eddie and Steve press on regardless and even the sorbet has tell-tale flecks of red. Tonight's other meal is the work of Wynne Fearfield from the Yorkshire Dales. She is noted not so much for the eccentricities of her menus as for an obsessional quest for perfection.

The Mind Traveller: Rage For Order BBC2, 9_30pm

The alarming thing about the brain conditions featured in Dr Oliver Sacks's series is that nobody seems to know what causes them, still less how they can be cured. The most that experts such as Sacks can do is to observe, which inevitably means intruding into private unhappiness. This intrusion may seem less acute when the story has a positive side Jessica Park from Massachusetts is autistic. At 37 she still has difficulty with speech, her life is dominated by obsessions which belong more to childhood and she can fly into sudden rages. But she is also a talented artist, good enough to have her paintings put on show in New York. Without trying to play the art critic, Sacks sees her confident handling of colour and firm use of form as the autistic's attempt to impose order on a disintegrating Peter Waymark | 5.30 NEWS (31087)

The state of the s 6.00am GMTV (1676537)

9.25 SUPERMARKET SWEEP (1295889) 9,55 REGIONAL NEWS (2004686) 10.00 THE TIME ... THE PLACE (62995) 10.30 THIS MORNING (24006792) 12.20pm REGIONAL NEWS (4872841) 12.30 NEWS and weather (Teletext) (4948711)

12.55 SHORTLAND STREET (s) (4923402) 1.25 Coronation Street (Teletoxt) (s) (7829063) 2.00 Home and Away (Teletext) (s) (57071112) 2.25 Cross Wits (Teletext) (s) (57090247) 2.50 Vanessa (Teletext) (S) (6801537) 3.20 NEWS (Teletext) (4906605)

3.25 REGIONAL NEWS (4905976) 3.30 THE RIDDLERS (3415266) 3.40 Wizadora (s) (7345228) 3.50 The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries (3419082) 4.05 Scooby Doo (9418711) 4.15 Name That Toon! (5534773) 4.40 Out of Sight

(Teletext) (s) (4985792 5.10 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (7283421) 5.40 NEWS and weather (Teletext) (373624) 6.00 HOME AND AWAY (r) (Teletext) (s) (820518)

6.25 HTV NEWS (Teletext) (146501) 7.00 EMMERDALE (Teletext) (s) (3763) 7.30 THE BIG STORY Dermot Murnaghan meets people who have recaptured the "feel-good factor" and will still be extremity comfortable regardless of next week's Budget proposals (s) (247)

8.00 THE BILL Holfis learns a lesson in community policing (Teletext) (6773) 8.30 IS IT LEGAL? Dick in Court Stella has to play Miss Whiplash again by forcing lazy senior partner Dick to handle one of her court cases (Teletext) (s) (5808)



Brendan Covie as Tate (9.00pm)

9.00 THIEF TAKERS: Collateral Dan The Flying Squad clash with other police departments when they arrest a lormer terronst turped Special Branch operative consoirecy which threatens his care and possibly his life (Teletext) (6518)

10.00 NEWS and weather (Teletext) (46247) 10 30 REGIONAL NEWS (106044) 10.35 HTV WEST NEWS (Teletext) (489889) Isabella Rossellini and Aidan Outon. I

10.40 FILM: Lies of the Twins (1991) starring model becomes unwittingly involved with her tiance's twin brother. Directed by Tim. Hunter (27962112) 12.25am THE WAR OF THE WORLDS (S)

1.25 NOT FADE AWAY (s) (7336919) 2.25 FLUX (s) (2647396) 3.25 LATE & LOUD (r) (s) (9551735) 4.20 RECOLLECTIONS (76033342)

4.30 THE TIME . . . THE PLACE (r) (s) (61803) 5.00 HEROES (r) (46006)

As HTV West except: 12.55pm HOME AND AWAY (4923402) 1.25 CROSS WITS (39589402)

1.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (24067889) 2.20 VANESSA (57082228) 2.50-3.20 HIGH ROAD (6801537)

5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (7283421) 6.25 CENTRAL NEWS AND WEATHER 6.55 LIFE LINE (691353) 10.40 THE 1996 MOBO AWARDS (3864266)

11.55 ALFRED HITCHCOCK PRESENTS (560063) 12.30am BRYAN ADAMS: WAKING UP THE

WORLD (1881464) 1.25 PLANET ROCK PROFILES (9529209) 2.50 FLUX (2878629)

3.45 ITV SPORT CLASSICS (79168261) 3.55 JOBFINDER (8692984) 5.20 ASIAN EYE (1169358)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.55 EMMERDALE (4923402) 1,25-1,55 CROSS WITS (39589402) 1,55 HOME AND AWAY (29733063) 2.25 VANESSA (57081599)

2.55 A COUNTRY PRACTICE (1249353) 5.10-5.40 HOME AND AWAY (7283421) 6.00 WESTCOUNTRY LIVE (80179)

MERIDIAN As HTV West except: 12.55 CROSS WITS (4923402) 1.25 HOME AND AWAY (39589402) 1.55 SHORTLAND STREET (24067889) 2.20 VANESSA (57082228) 2.50-3.20 HOUSEPARTY (6801537)

5.10 HOME AND AWAY (7283421) 6.00 MERIDIAN TONIGHT (711) 6.30 ANYTHING YOU CAN DO (173) 10.30 LONDON TONIGHT (480518) 4.30am BEYOND REASON (61803)

5.00 FREESCREEN (46006) ANGLIA As HTV Wast except:

12.55pm CROSS WITS (4923402) 1.25 HOME AND AWAY (39589402) 1.55 JUSTICE OF THE LAND (24067889) 2.20 VANESSA (57082228)

2.50-3.20 PERFECTLY PETS (6801537) 5.10-5.40 SHORTLAND STREET (7283421) 6.30 ANGLIA NEWS (173)

S4C Starts: 6.35em PRO STARS (9043315) 7.00 THE BIG BREAKFAST (74228) 9.00 HERE'S ONE I MADE EARLIER (56624) 9.30 UNE 1 MADE EARLIER (50024) 9-30 YSGOLKON (749150) 12.00 HOUSE TO HOUSE (36860) 12.30pm TRUMPTON (17940044) 12.45 ALFIE ATKINS (17945599) .00 SLOT MEITHRIN (77315) 1.30 SUMMER LEGEND (62773) 2.00 Film: THE BADLANDERS (2992131) 3.15 RICKI LAKE (6898150) 4.00 FIFTEEN-TO-ONE (976) 4.30 (860) 5.00 5 PUMP (8131) 5.30 COUNTDOWN (112) 6.00 NEWYDDION 6 (712150) 6.05 HENO (831624) 6.35 SION A SIAN (625173) 7.00 POBOL Y CWM (108228) 7.25 PENBLWYDD HAPUS (359841) 8.00 CYW HAUL (4315) 8.30 NEWYDDION (6150) 9.00 | DOT (7860) 10.00 THE FRAGILE HEART (7894763) 11.20 Film: WW AND THE DDIE DANCE KINGS (822266) 1.00am

8.35am PRO STARS (9043315) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (74228) 9.00 Here's One I Made Earlier (56624) 9.30 SCHOOLS. Middle English 9.45 The Maths Programma 10.05 Scientific Eye 10.25 Geographical Eye 10.45 Le Petit Monde de Pierre 11.00 Geographical Eye 11.20 Tilm and Video Showcase 11.40 The Spanish Programme (749150) 12.00 House to House (s) (36860) 12.30pm Trumpton (17940044) 12.45 Alfie Alkins (17945599 1.00 Sesame Street (68957) 2.00 Purun Bhagat (46457044)

2.05 THE LIVING SEA (70540179) 2.35 FILM: Challenger (1990) with Karen Allen. The first of a two-part biopic about the doomed Challenger space shuttle mission of 1986. Directed by Glenn Jordan. Part two can be seen next

Thursday (Teletext) (5440537)
4.00 FIFTEEN-TO-ONE (Teletext) (s) (976)
4.30 Countdown (Teletext) (s) (860) 5.00 Ricki Lake (Teletext) (s) (5864976) 5.45 Anton Mos (Telelexi) (647711)

6.00 NEW GAMESMASTER featuring Uri Geller (Teletext) (353) 6.30 HOLLYOAKS (Teletext) (s) (605) 7.00 CHANNEL 4 NEWS (Teletext) (473860) 7.50 THE SLOT (448518)



8.00 WOMEN AT PLAY: Women with Balls First in a new series about women and leisure. Tonioht we meet the ladies who play to Harlequins Rugby Club, which last season fielded an alf-lemale side for the first time in its 130-year history (Teletext) (s) (4315)

8.30 TV DINNERS Two men prepare wedding anniversary meals for their wives (Teletext) (s) (6150) 9.00 DISPATCHES investigates the unslable and unsavoury secrets that can be beneath newly-built homes (Teletext) (s) (633082)

9.45 LLOYDS BANK/CHANNEL 4 FILM CHALLENGE: Balloons Comedy about Julie, her boyfriend and her grandmother (Teletext) (s) (446131)

10.00 FiLM: License to Kill (1984) with James Farenting as the father of a teenage out who was killed by a drunk driver. Al Denzel Washington. Directed by Jud Taylor (Teletext) (833112)

11,50 FOUR-MATIONS: Electric Passions 12.30am MOVIEWATCH (r) (s) (19272)

1.00 FOUR-MATIONS: Shorts (71280) 1.30 FILM: Trouble for Two (b/w. 1936) Myslery-drama-romance with Robert Montgomery and Rosalind Russell. Directed by J Walter Ruben (4830071) 2.50 FILM; The Bride Came C. O. D (b/w, 1941) Romantic farce with James Cagney

as a pilot down on his luck. Directed by

William Keighley (867025)

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory. oublished on Saturday

7.00km Love Connection (3957334; 7.28-Phrs; Your Luck (3327576; 7.48-Jeopardy/ (5396773) 8.40 Hotel (6474711) 9.00 Arather Woods (5291112) 9.46 The Opath Virting / Show (550208) 10.40 Real TV (7123179) 11.10 Salt, Jessy Raphard (9053880) 19.00 Geraldo (21583) 1.00pat 1 6 7.000000 9.00 Lenne, Lone, 13957) 4.00 (9053850) 12.00 Geraldo (21563) 1.00pm 1 to 3 (19268) 2.00 Jenny Jones (1935) 2.00 The Open Whitely Show (25782) 5.00 Ster neit. The Near Generation (5*11) 5.00 The New Adventures of Superman (71547) 2.00 The New Adventures of Superman (71547) 2.00 The New Adventures of Superman (71547) 2.00 Ster next The New Generation (2570) 10.00 Ster next The New Adversaries of Superman (73470) 12.00 Michight Caller (8008) 1.00mm 173470; 12.00 Michight Caller (8008) 1.00 Y (70174) 2.00 Hz Ma Long Pay . 12577

7.00pm Star Teer Deep Space Nere (8888711) 4.00 Police Rescut (8098115) 9.00 A Deep in Caltornia. Part Telo (584890) 11.00 Late Ston. Will David Lettermen (212500) 12.00 FR.Nr. Carrier men (8607716) 2.20mm Hr.Mr. (54475.5)

Published their coverage war bullers on

LOBour Picture (1975) 55650 LSD Other Wester's Captions (1990) 1950) 10.00 Histori's Calline (1950) 1950) 10.00 His Led Two Lives (1955) 2502) 3200 Hor Live Alone (1904) 9537) 2,60pm Horitana Stad Call 2002) 1200 for Lare Alote (1991) 152(7) 2,00pm Marchington Flood Roll (1992) 152(7) 2,00pm Marchington Flood Roll (1992) 121(9) 2,00pm of Mar (1992) 171(9) 2,00 Car 54, Where Are You? (1994) 1515(7) 7,60 UE Top 16 (224(2)) 2,00 The Context May (1994) 128(1247) 12,00em Marchinette (1994) 128(1247) 12,00em Marchinette (1994) 128(1247) 12,00em Marchinette (1994) 16 (1994) 16 (1994) 16 (1994) 16 (1994) 16 (1994) 16 (1994) 16 (1994) 16 (1994) 16 (1994) 16 (1994) 17 (1994) 16 (1994) 17 (

THE MOME CHANNEL

possess our sens can (1999) (3-995534) 103/10 Little Alles Mallions (1992) (42152112) 12.00 The Remains of the Day (1923) (79539183) 2.15pm Forbid-den Memories (1985) (493131) 4.00 Jim's Gift (1994) (5957) 6.00 The Last Jim's Gift (1894) (5857) 6.00 (The Class Grant Warrior (1894) (44315) 8.00 Maries's Wedding (1894) (61307773) 9.45 (The Morie Show (597570) 10.15 Shrunk-ett (1894) (431895) 11.45 (Essumposite II (1975) (429150) 1.15em Maries's Wedding (1894) (60220) 3.05 (Hear No Swif (1984) (60279) (57532) SKY MOVIES GOLD .

4.00pm Beautiful But Dengerous (1952) (37143044) 5.50 The Yearling (1945) (80552334) 8.00 The Trail of the Pink Parither (1962) (2365773) 10.00 Com-usando (1963) (9903686) 11.35 Willia Milechiel (1967) (8229570) 1.25am To Sk, with Love (1967) (572229) 3.10 5.00 ADey at the Ruces (1937) (519984) THE DISNEY CHANNEL Sky Mordes Gold takes over at 10p

Sty Mordes Gold Inters over at 10pm. 8,00em Mouse Tracks (8629247) 5.25 Quack Attack (6531082) 6.50 Sonters 5133995) 7.15 Darkwing Duck (9077083) 7.40 Aladdin (389580) 8.05 Goof Troop (7955000) 2.30 Tram and Pumbas 26.2941) 8.40 Bankers (2505889) 9.05 Mouse Tracks (838044) 9.30 Big Garage (732228) 9.45 Lamb Chop's Play Alang 643920 10.15 Mannel Babes (823044) **322228 9.45 Lamb Chop's Pley Along (613583) 10.15 Muppel Babers (823049) 10.46 Adventures in Worderland (2870334) 11.10 Cueck Attract (706315) 11.40 Westerne 10 Profit Contex (309905) 12.35 12.10pm Fraggle Rock (6018995) 12.35 Lamb Crop's Play Along (4690911) 1.05 Maddin (51453462) 1.55 Datkery Presents (51217841) 1.30 Aladdin (51453462) 1.55 West Disney Presents Lamb Crop's Play Abrig received 1, 200 Abaddin (1423-627) 1.55 Destoring Duck (1423-627) 1.55 Destoring Duck (1423-627) 1.55 Destoring Duck (1423-627) 1.55 Destoring Duck (1423-627) 1.50 Destoring Duck (1423-627) 1.50 Destoring Duck (1409-627) 1.50 Abaden (1404-629) 1.52 Tenon and Parthus (1442-629) 1.52 Tenon and (1423-628) 1.50 Destoring (1423-639) 1.5

SKY SPORTS 1 7.00mm Sports Cartie (74266) 7.30 World Wresting Federator: Challenge (15131) 8.20 Racing News (51841) 9.00 Sports Derzie (75421; 8.30 Aprobes Oz Syle

(89112) 10.00 Grass Roots Rugby (25131) 10.30 Futbol Mundial (71605) 11.00 World Cup of Got! Custifier (62421) 12.00 Aerobics Oz Styls (8257) 12.30 pm NHL ice Hockey (85680) 2.30 Cricket: Hong Kong Sass (22247) 4.30 World of Saiting (4353) 5.00 World Wresting Federation: Superstars (5599) 8.00 Sports Centre (2518) 6.30 Nebbusters (88315) 7.30 World of Saiting (5082) 8.00 Cricket: Hong Kong Sees (87044) 10.00 Sports Centre (63936) 10.30 Febring: Tight Lines (18570) 11.30 World of Saiting (22215) 12.00 Cricket: Hong Kong Sass (13716) 2.00em Sports Centre (16203) 2.30 Nebbusters (72990) 3.30-4.00 Sports Centre (13990) 3.30-4.00 Sports Centre (13990)

SKY SPORTS 2 8.00pm Fishing: Tight Lines (4772083) 9.00 Spanish Football (4775150) 11.00 Bobby Charlton's Football Scrapbook (3120179) 12.30sm-1.00 Blood, Sweal and Glory SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Like World Cup of Golf (73263808) 12:00 See World Cup of GOU (135-2008) 3,00pm Sports Unlimited (5009976) 4,00 Golf Edra (3606941) 6,00 Beach Volleyball (25950608) 7,00 Sports Centre (36089334) 7,30 Football League Réview (82659824) 9,00 World Cup of Golf (72343869) 11,38-EUROSPORT

7.30mm Equestriament (17599) 8.30 7.30am Equestianson (17569) 8.30 Spectword (95247) 10.30 Motors (96763) 11.30 Karling (14745) 12.30 pm Eurolun (18624) 1.00 Live Tenna (7699841) 5.00 Live Women's Apine Sking (9395) 8.00 Live Women's Apine Sking (9024) 8.30 Live Figure Skings (9024) 8.30 Live Figure Skings (9024) 8.30 Live Figure Skings (9024) 9.30 Footbal (64666) 11.30 Seeing (40711) 12.00-12.30 Women's Apine Skings (24700) - CPANAS APINE SKINGS (24700) -GRANADA PLUS

6.00am Ruraray (8579402) 6.30 Once Upon a Time (8510996) 6.45 Our flactivest (77689624) 7.00 Alphabet Zoo (2331315) 7.15 Once Upon a Time (6482519) 7.30 The Return of the Artalope (6832014) 6.00 Chassic Coronation Street (131680) 6.30 Ruraray (1316131) 9.00 Families (1339711) 9.20 Albion Market (5444792) 18.00 Goostroy, a Village: Part One (7296805) 10.30 Leave It to Charlet (1339971) 71.00 Line for Lydia (633024) 12.00 Classic Commation Street (1326247) 12.30 per Surgical Sphr. (5455808) 1.00 The



Charles Dance and Greta Scacchi (Sky Movies Gold, 11.35pm)

Practice (7953450) 1.30 Farmiles (5454179) 2.00 After the Wer (7299334) 3.00 Leave to Charfe (7397179) 3.30 Seven up in South Alma: Part Two (7878685) 4.00 Sam (1897841) 5.00 Love for Lydia (7371131) 6.00 Classic Coronation Street (7867570) 6.30 Farmiles; (7881150) 7.00 The Army-Gerne (7372860) 7.30 Surgical Spirt (7887334) 8.00 Shedes of Darkness (629615) 9.00 Classic Coronation Street (5206624) 9.35 The Good Life Guide (1297316) 10.00-11.00 Sam (6849265) (1297316) 10.00-11.00 Sam (58492 GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 6.00em-9.00 TV High Street. Includes consumer news and features and Your Sters presented by Russell Grant From 9.00-12.00 Feed and Wine. Includes recipes and ideas from Delia Smith From 12.00-3.00pm Health and Beauty. Includes Natural Health From 3.00-8.00 Home and Garden Includes. The Good Life Style Guide THE HISTORY CHANNEL 4.00pm Biography Herold Lloyd (2292228) 5.00 Hollywood (2042860) 6.00 The War in the East (1560841) 7.00-8.00 Biography: The Kermedys Week (4763315)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Films, leatures and classic series overy day rams, seatures and classic series mery day from 8per-4em Monday to Wisdreaday and 1em-4em Thursday to Sunday on satelete, and from 8em-4em every day on cable. 1.00mm The Twight Zone (677(336) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (2756548) 2.30 Night Gallery 15778919) 3.00 Finday the 13th (3674716) 3.65-4.00 Quans (34882174) 9.00am The Joy of Penting (1885853) 9.30

9.00mm The Joy of Parting (1865353) 9.30 The Great Gardening Ptxt (5256529) 10.00 Go Fishing (2231402) 10.30 House Style (1881537) 11.00 The Resoration Game (8530402) 11.30 Craftwise (9931131) 12.00 Julia Child (187299) 12.30pm; Graham Korr (1668565) 1.90 Yan Con Cool (2507088) 1.30 Home Again, with Bob Via (2008006) 2.00 Fumiliare to Go (2896841) 2.30 Secret Gardens (816570) 3.00 Rex Hurt's Fishing Advertises (2815876) 3.30-4.00 Title Old House (8171316) 4.00 This Old House (8171316) 4.00 This Old House (817/31b)
DISCOVERY takes over at 4.00pm.
4.00pm Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures
(8183150) 4.30 Driving Passions (8188334)
8.00 Time Travelers (2810421) 5.30
Jurassica 2 (8170686) 6.00 Wild Things

(67036) 4) 7.00 Next Step (2807957) 7.30 Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious Universe (8180063) 8.00 The Professionals (5168376) 9.00 Top Merques 2: Fist (8950266) 9.30 Righttine (7258709) 10.00 Classic Wheels (5158599) 11.00 Stysorep-er at Sea (8862155) 12.00 The Profession-de (11920014) 100tem Hoth Ete (1274193) als (1122209) 1.00mm High Five (1274193) 1.30-2.00 Ambulancel (2642532) UK GOŁD

7.00am Gorig for Gold (2471131) 7.35 Crossroads (4465686) 8.00 Neighbours (2662353) 8.26 EastEnders (2040518) 8.00 The 88 (1887711) 8.30 One by One (7068976) 10.30 The Suffwars (188395) 11.00 Scittly Softly Task Force (8602470) 12.00 Crossroads (35823899) 12.25pm Neighbours (25826976) 12.55 EastEnders (2586247) 1.30 Terry and June (654253) 2.10 A Liftle Bill of Emery (3465259) 2.20 Brush Strokes (4462063) 3.00 Sale of the Certiluty (2617333) 3.30 The Bill (8173773) 4.00 Howards Way (8923112) 5.00 EastEnders (1616334) 5.35 Crossroads (3117247) 8.00 Get Some Inf (817957) 6.30 Ever Demossing Circles (5285402) 7.05 Bob's Full House (5979680) 7.45 The Other One (5353286) 8.20 Victoria Wood as Seen on TV (8878179) 9.00 The Equalization To Equalization (18795179) 9.00 The Equalization (18 Seen on TV (8879179) 9.00 The Equalizer (5148570) 10.00 The B4I (6778889) 10.25 The Young Ones (698976) 11.15 Tagger (8072155) 12.15em Rowland Phron Etres the Bullet (8274735) 12.45 FEMI: Count

6.00am Swan's Crossing (6601841) 6.20 Melsionn No Neised France (6612957) 6.45 Hellway Across the Galzey and Turn Left (996229) 7.15 Ready or Not (896841) 7.45 Cadiorna Debams (88512) 8.15 Sweet Valley High (769632) 8.45 Art Attack (784621) 9.00 Troy ICC (Unal 3.00pm). Troy and Crow (86963421) 2.20 Brum (8860957) 9.40 Johnson and Rose of Cockleshell Bay (8940711) 10.20 Phaties the Frog (3565808) 10.40 Charlo Chalk (7057570) 11.00 Unobashes (92402) 11.30 Jrn Herrson's Armel Show (89131) 12.00 Jen Horson's Anemel Show (89131) 12.00 Barney (22353) 12.30pm Where's Waly? (50624) 1.00 Casper and Friends (49605) 1.30 Thy and Crew (61466976) 1.55 Burtip (10214860) 2.40 Mr Bern (9206044) 3.00 Halfway Across the Galaxy and Turn Left (8605) 3.30 Ready or Not (4632) 4.00 California Dreams (6599) 4.30-5.80 Sweet Valley High (8711)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (5459) 6.30 Elber Mice from Mars (33421) 7.00 Rocko's Modem Life (7365112) 7.15 Hey Arnald (4727660) 7.30 Rugrets (51315) 8.00 Doug (50112) 8.30 Asanhi Real Monstors (62711) 9.00 Where on Earth a Carmen Sandlego? (73063) 9.30 Wishbone (10062) 10.00 Barriass in Pylamas (5100762) 10.00 Barriass in Pylamas (560762) 10.00 Barriass in Pylamas (6861605) 11.00 BBC Block (60063) 12.00 Clarassa Explans in All (60599) 12.00 Clarassa Explans in All (60599) 12.00 Clarassa Explans in All (60599) 12.00 pt. (6063) 12.00 Clarassa Explans in All (60599) 12.00 Clarassa (6062) 2.00 BBC Block (77396) 3.00 Asahri Real Monsters (4976) 4.00 Burno the Kid (6711) 4.30 Rugrats (1008624) 4.45 Doug (1003179) 5.00 Septer Sester (7324) 5.30 Moesha (3347) 6.00 Round the Twist (3860) 6.30 7.00 Are You Altrad of the Dark? (4112) PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Diffrent Strokes (7570) 7.30 Benson (3624) 8.00 Due South (74570) Berson (3624) 9.00 Due South (74570) 9.00 Almost Perfect (67792) 9.30 Taxl (37614) 10.00 Enternamment Tonght (61229) 10.30 Flying Blind (70978) 11.00 Topical Fish (79537) 11.30 Nightstand (51686) 12.30am Sledge Hammeri (73116) 1.00 Due South (801741 2.00 Enternamment Tonght (16445) 2.30 Topical Fish (20280) 3.00 Flying Blind (87990) 3.30-4.00 Almost Perfect (11572)

12.00 Fartasy Island (8503696) 1.00pm Remington Steele (2208204) 2.00 Return of the Sant (2236957) 3.00 The Champions (8939773) 4.00 Fit.M: The World of Henry Orient (2813518) 8.00 Joe 90 (8197353) 6.30 Captern Scarict (6188605) 7.00 The Water Marger (5177082) 8.00 Scarsty and Hutch (5153402) 9.00 Cmm Story (5173366) 10.00-12.00 FILM: On a Moon-UK LIVING

8.00em Kiroy (4021860, 7.00 The Agent Experience (4334597) 7.30 The Young and the Resiless (6845899) 8.20 Ken Hom (5092334) 8.55 Turnebout (7452421) 9.35 Call the Doctor (5.39222) 10.00 Entertainment Novi (3156112; 10.05 Jerry Springer (7958711) 11.00 The Young and the Resiless (8727711) 11.55 Brookside (\$8536068) 12.25pm Traval Pursuit (93825266) 12.50 Gabriete (7094529) 1.40

Rolonda (6337315) 2.30 Agony Expensance (4924518) 3.00 Live at Tirse (4704547) 4.00 Who's Sony Now? (4908570) 4.30 T-sikabou (9244150) 5.05 Lings (92175131) 5.30 Lucky Ladders (4928234) 6.00 Be-wiched (4928247) 6.30 Ready. Steady. Cook (610563) 7.05 Brookside (4801247) 7.35 Tivital Pursut (2981886) 8.00 General Practice (2300599) 8.00 FILIE: Trapped In Siliance (18912808) 10.50 Entertairment Stience (18912808) 10.50 Entertainment Now! (7745228) 11.00-12.00 Erogenous Zone (4310957)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Blockbusters (3:150) 5.30 Treasure Hurtl (2:155) 6.30 Catchphrase (7:25) 7.00 The Pyramid Game (48:26) 7.30 Hart to Hart (10112) 8.30 Duty Free (3341) 9.00 Bergerac (49908) 10.00 Rath Rended Mysteries: Kissing the Gumer's Daughter (4:2995) 11.00 Rising Damp (17:11) 11.30 Evening Shade (217:11) 12.00 Mooriforting (5:1990) 1.00tem Bergerac (26:990) 2.00 Hart to Hart (80:764) 3.00 Mooriforting (84:174) 4.00 All Together New (7:2513) 4.30-5.00 The Black Stallon (24:445)

The 24 hour music channel, includes news, reviews, ive concent lootage, internews and the latest music video charts

The video hits channel. Classic reak and pop videos and the best new sounds

7.00am Jaagran 7.30 Lifestyle East 8.30 Pakisten Business Update 9.00 Htt Thi Htt Hai 9.30 Your Zindeon 10.00 Bhasat Elk Kha Hai 9.30 Your Zindegi 10.00 Bhasat Ek Rhaj 11.00 Shekil 11.30 Banegi Apri: Bast 12.00 Destann 12.30pm Interaar 1.00 Hinds FILM; Rahee 4.00 ZEE Top 10 6.00 ZEE Zone 5.30 Kya Scene Hai 6.00 Punjabi Foli. 6.30 ZEE and You 7.00 Ten Brit Chup Meri Brit Chup 7.30 Cinemagic 8.00 News and Euroneus 8.30 Andaz 9.00 Urds: Senat-last 9.30 Haustein 10.00 Commander <u>ചച്ച 9.30 Hasretain 10.00 Commands</u> 11.30-12.00 Asp Ki Farman'

CARTOON NETWORK/INT Continuous cartoons from 5am to 9pm,

9.00pm The See Hawk (1940) (86412641) 11.15 The Feminine Touch (1941) 11673228] 1.00em 42nd Street (1933) (8869838) 2.00-5.00 The See Hawk



THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21 1996

Srnicek's errors could prove costly

Keegan must invest in safe keeping

THE championship, Bob Wilson asserts, is never won by a football team harbouring a suspect goalkeeper. Think of Schmeichel, Flowers and Seaman, for example, and recent history appears to support the argument of the former Scotland goalkeeper, who is now a television pundit.

There is even a school of thought which advances the idea that Manchester United edged Newcastle United out of the FA Carling Premiership race last season simply because they possessed, in Schmeichel, the outstanding goalkeeper of his generation.

Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, must wrestle with such thoughts, especially after the 1-1 draw vith FC Metz in the Uefa Cup third-round, first-leg tie in France on Tuesday. Pavel Smicek, the Newcastle No I. rarely inspires absolute confidence and certainly cost his team victory, if not the opportunity to progress to the quarter-finals. It also cast a shadow over a defence which is un-

Smicek is a fine goalkeeper at times but, all too often, he succombs to a strange madness which undermines his performance. Comparisons have been drawn with Bruce Grobbelaar, but the former Liverpool and Southampton

ACROSS

9 Pigs (5)

Gradual quieting (mus.)

8 Bridge over valley (7)

10 Crude painting (4)

11 State boundary (8)

14 Short-tempered (5)

like shard (4)

22 Obsolete law (4.6)

21 Holy war (7)

16 Introductory statement (8)

17 Wild beast (abbr): sounds

20 Cutting-, shaping-machine

All hights are subject to availability

ution will appear on Wednesday.

SOLUTION TO NO 944

17 Lister 18 Dread 19 Pulse

goalkeeper had, in his prime, two assets that Srnicek does not - the ability to command his area, and luck. Poor Smicek. Every time

he makes a mistake, he is punished for it. There was little sympathy, however, from Keegan on Tuesday night. There was the merest hint of impatience in his voice when he said: "Pav knows that even if he plays well, a goalkeeper cannot make even one error. He will hold his hand up and say he has made a mistake." Keegan has moved positively to tighten up at the back, by

Bryant's Eve Seaman roled out 48

appointing Mark Lawrenson as a defensive coach, but still he has a problem with Srnicek. He tried to solve it by signing Brad Freidel, a United States international, but could not secure a work permit. He did manage to purchase Shaka Hislop, but it appears now that Keegan has even less confidence in the former Read-

Hislop lost his place at St James' Park in December of last season when he was injured against Chelsea. It may be that the time has come to give him one last opportuni-

I Oath of the Horatii painter

5 Divisions (among team) (8)

7 White (teeth): Cockney king

15 Divided: (golf-shot) hit off-

18 Transparent: evident (5)

19 Kentish invader; rope plant

State bureaucrat (5.7)

2 Sizings (12)

islang) (4)

12 First showing (S)

13 Lithe: flexible (6)

centre (6)

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12 Shipshape 13 Kitten 15 Invest 18 Deceptive 19 Pip

DOWN: 1 Hassock 2 Banal 3 Townspeople 4 Acquit 6 Iterate 7 Posse 10 Absenteeism 14 Tactile 16 Topcoat

20 Evident 21 Igloo 22 Diet 23 Drumbeat

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TIMESTWO

CROSSWORD

No 945 in association with

BRITISH MIDLAND

ty this weekend, ironically in a fixture at Stamford Bridge. It is a dilemma for Keegan, who must find a solution quickly if he is to secure the championship. The transfer market would appear to be his best

problems in the back line any more. Lawrenson appears to have installed a touch more discipline in the defence, and it was evident in the controlled display against Metz. Albert and Peacock, in particular, were steadiness personified, and Lawrenson was rightly proud of their performances.

"There was not a major job for me to do when I arrived at Newcastle, just a bit of tinker-ing," he said. "They are basically good defenders. Albert is talented, it all comes so easily to him, but I just had to point out that he must not go charging upfield until we have controlled matches - his priority is defence."

anyone did give the ewcastle back four a problem in Metz, it was Robert Pires, the winger who bars David Ginola's path into the France side. It was his pace and youthful vigour which set him apart, and although he was not exactly untouchable. he is clearly good enough to attract interest from Premier-

Pires explained afterwards, been inquiries from English along of Italy. It is the English league that appeals to him. "I would love to play in England. I would choose it ahead of

Italy," he said.
"My contract has just over a year to run at Metz, and if there was a reasonable offer from England, I would relish the challenge." It is thought that Arsenal, Everton and Middlesbrough have all monitored the 23-year-old's presence, and Metz, who struggle financially, would be hardpushed to refuse any bid that topped £4 million, despite an avowed intention to keep Solari, the Argentina centre, breaks away from the London Counties cover in the tour match at Twickenham yesterday. Report, page 48

Wembley casts shadow over Sacchi

FROM BRIAN GIANVILLE IN MILAN

ARRIGO SACCHI, the Italy coach, will almost certainly be still in charge of the team Wembley in a vital World Cup qualifying match next February. But if they lose, that

After Italy's recent wretched results, Sacchi has been hanging by a thread. The more so since his great protector. Antonio Matarrese, has been deposed as president of the FIGC, the Italian FA, and will be succeeded by Luciano Nizzola, who has little time for Sacchi and his £800,000-a-

year contract The coach, meanwhile, is desperately making all the right noises: that there is a great spirit in his team, that they will really be "up for it" when the time comes at Wembley. There are few who agree, least of all Nizzola. Roy Hodgson, the English manager of Internazionale, for

his part, is staying with Inter

t is becoming something of a personal tradition.

. Every November in these

pages, I quote Ezra Pound and then say that the panel that judges the William Hill

Sports Book of the Year prize

has got it wrong. So here we

go again. "Literature is news

that stays news." Thanks, Ezra, and no. Donald Me-

Rae's Dark Trade is not the

But having got that over with. I would like to say that

the shortlist contained six

good books, any one of which

might have won in some of

the thinner years of the prize's

history. This is either a fluke.

or conclusive proof that the standard of sports books is

All six of these books are

suitable for grown-ups. None is stuck with the playground

notion that sport is the only

thing in life that matters. Each

one is keen to set sport and its

participants into the context of

Bradman. by Charles Wil-

liams. He is a Labour life peer

cricketer, and his previous

biography was of that well-

known sporting figure.

INSIDE

Alan Lee, right, cricket corr-

espondent of The Times.

meets Shane Warne, the best

powier in the world. Lee has

been voted joint cricket writer

of the year by the readers of Wisden Cricket Monthly.

sharing the award with Christopher Martin-Jenkins of The Daily Telegraph.

My own winner

real life.

one I would have chosen.

of Serie A, when they had just victory on Juventus's ground in the Copa Italia not long after being played off the field there and losing 2-0 in a At that point, one hears. Massimo Moratti, the presi-

after being given a new two-

year contract. According to

the cynics in Milan, the offer

of a three-year contract by

Blackburn Rovers could not

have come at a better time for

Hodgson: a time when Inter's

fortunes have suddenly

changed, when they were top

dent of Inter, was privately talking about finding a new manager. But that is Italian football: infinitely volatile, slavishly geared to the latest In Inter's case, that was a 5-1

win on Tuesday in the Uefa Cup against a Boavista team whose goalkeeper was comfortably the worst I have ever seen in a European game. Even without the dominating Paul Ince, who was suspended out will be back for the crucial

derby with AC Milan on Sunday, Inter won as they

Yesterday Hodgson went to see Moratti at Inter's headquarters in Piazza Duse to tie up his new contract, said to be worth rather more than £600,000 a year, doubtless free of tax.

Moratti did not see Hodgson as the perfect manager, Inter's tactics having been much criti-



cised earlier in the season. even when they were winning but who else was there in

Inter, after all, are top of the league, but many years ago. when I was living in Rome, I Guttman, the famous Hungarian coach, in a restaurant by Milan, themselves in first

"I shall have a clause in my next contract," he said. "Not to be dismissed when the club is top of the league," He went on to win the European Cup

twice, with Benfica. Hodgson, after crushing of Boavista, told me: The fact is very simple. I received, out of the blue, an inquiry to see if I was interest-ed in Blackburn at the end of my contract. What happened was that I informed them that I was very interested, and I was very impressed by their people. So really, what I did then, before I could give an answer, I was duty-bound to

tell the president (of Inter):

Don't count on me when my contract runs out, because I'm only contracted till the end of

"He wanted to know if there was any dissatisfaction on my part. I said that it was only after next July, when I won't have a job, and I've been

After a two-hour conversation on Tuesday, agreement in een manager and Moratti. "I told him: 'I only want you to keep me if you're 100 per cen-sure I'm the man.'" Hodgson said. "In a long two-hour conversation, he convinced

. Hodgson wants to stay, he says, somewhat longer in Europe before he takes on an English club. He is happy. Moratti says he is very happy. The sceptics will argue that Hodgson may be strong now, but that matters might be very different in three

But that, eternally, is Italian

Milosevic decides to remain with Villa

AFTER hours of negotiations. dozens of faxes and no little speculation, the saga of Savo Milosevic appears to be over. closing with it any prospect of Stan Collymore joining Aston Villa in the near future (Rich-

ard Hobson writes). Almost a month since news broke that Milosevic, 23, the Villa forward, was a target for Perugia, the player has said finally that he has no intention of joining them. Moreover, he has pledged himself to Villa. and having trained hard since returning to England from Belgrade last weekend, may be picked against Coventry City on Saturday because Dwight Yorke is on World

Brian Little, the Villa manager, had a bid of \$4.5 million for Collymore rejected by Liverpool last week. He was expecting to be able to raise that to £6 million this week with Villa preparing to send 2 delegation to Perugia in an attempt to hasten the Milosevic transfer to finance a

further bid for the striker. However, Little is reluctant to sell any other member of his

first-team squad. Villa are likely to resurrect their interest at some stage, although Nottingham Forest. who sold Collymore to Liverpool for £8.5 million in July 1995, may attempt to entice him back. A takeover of the City Ground club wil! be completed next month, giving Frank Clark, the manager, around £10 million to spend. Their parlous position at the bottom of the FA Carling Premiership dictates that he must bring in players of proven quality, quickly. enjoying another triumph Simon Barnes takes

Why Bradman should be

issue with the

choice of the sports book of the year

Charles de Gaulle. It is a recognition that Bradman is not part of sporting history; he

Sport has power over the imaginations of people and of nations. W. G. Grace for Victorian England; Frank Worrell for West Indies, Muhammad Ali for the world. Its role in the world of power and the creation of history is a matter that needs proper assessment. Bradman does this, and is a

good read to boot. The winner, Dark Trade, and another contender. On the Ropes, by a psychologist named Geoffrey Beattle, are written by good-hearted, liberal-souled people fascinated by boxing and half-appalled by their fascination. The research shines from every page, but neither book leaps over the great divide between news and literature.

There is another book of

cricket history on the list, and

mond is a fine piece of work. Hammond's terrible illness, met with on a tour of the West Indies, was not a fancy form of malaria but syphilis: and that the course of the disease shaped his life. It is a wellresearched and compassion

ate book. Someone had to write Little Girls in Pretty Boxes, an tears, injury and abuse behind the making of champions in the sports of gymnasties and ice skating. It is a journalist's book all right. There is no shade, no perspec tive, and yet it is, in terms of contemporary sport, the most

important book on the list. The last is Sue Mott's A Girl's Guide to Ball Games. It is delightful, perceptive and it made me howl with laughter on Finsbury Park station in a heavy frost. Is that the ultimate literary accolade?

Dark Trade: Lost in Boxing, by Donald McRue (Mainstream, £14.99)

On the Ropes: Boxing as a Way of Life, by Geoffrey Beattle (Victor Gollancz, £16.99}

Wally Hammond: The Reasons Why, by David Foot (Robson, £17.95) A Girl's Guide to Ball Games: What Men Need to Know, by Sue Mott (Mainstream,

£15.99} Little Girls in Pretty Boxes: The Making and Breaking of Elite Gymnasts and Figure Skaters, by Joan Ryan (The Women's Press, £8.99) Bradman: an Australian Hero, by Charles Williams

(Little, Brown, £20.00)

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